HERBERT HÄRTEL

EXCAVATIONS AT SONKH

MONOGRAPHIEN ZUR INDISCHEN ARCHÄOLOGIE,
KUNST UND PHILOLOGIE

BAND 9

MONOGRAPHIEN ZUR INDISCHEN ARCHÄOLOGIE, KUNST UND PHILOLOGIE

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im Auftrag des Stiftungsrates der Stiftung Ernst Waldschmidt
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BAND 9

HERBERT HÄRTEL

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2500 YEARS OF A TOWN IN MATHURA DISTRICT

With contributions by
Hans-Jürgen Paech and Rolf Weber

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Dedicated
to the Indian officials and colleagues
who supported this excavation venture,
in particular to the then Directors
of the Government Museum Mathura,
the learned Doctores N. P. JOSHI and R. C. SHARMA

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

a) Publications

AI	Ancient India. Bulletin of the Archaeological Survey of India
ASIAR	Annual Reports (of the) Archaeological Survey of India
DMC	H. N. Wright. The Coinage and Metrology of the Sultans of Delhi. Delhi 1936
IMC	J. Allan. The Coins of the Native States of India. Catalogue of Coins in the Indian Museum Calcutta, vol. IV. Oxford 1928.
JASB	Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal
JBRS	Journal of the Bihar Research Society
JNSI	Journal of the Numismatic Society of India
JUPHS	Journal of the U. P. Historical Society
LMC	C. J. Brown. Coins of the Mughal Emperors. Catalogue of Coins in the Provincial Museum Lucknow. Oxford 1920.
MASI	Memoirs of the Archaeological Survey of India
MNSI	Memoirs of the Numismatic Society of India
SAA 1973	South Asian Archaeology 1973, ed. J. E. van Lohuizen-de Leeuw & J. M. M. Ubaghs. Papers from the Second International Conference of the Association for the Promotion of South Asian Archaeology in Western Europe held at the University of Amsterdam. Leiden 1974.

b) Subjects

BRW	Black-and-Red Ware
CGW	Coarse Grey Ware
DMM	Durgā Mahiṣāsuramardinī
FS	Find Spot
L.	Level
NBPW	Northern Black Polished Ware
PGW	Painted Grey Ware

To the attention of the reader:

The descriptive text for the large number of find objects illustrated in this volume is placed, as a rule, at the beginning of each subject group. In the case of the largest groups, e.g. terracotta figurines, the text is arranged periodwise.
Black number fields on the relevant pages indicate the find groups according to the following list:

1 Terracotta Human Figurines
2 Terracotta Animal Figurines
3 Terracotta Votive Tanks
4 Terracotta Toy-carts
5 Terracotta Wheels
6 Terracotta Discs
7 Terracotta Spindle-whorls
8 Terracotta Skin-rubbers
9 Terracotta Dabbers
10 Terracotta Reels
11 Terracotta Game Pieces
12 Terracotta Balls
13 Terracotta Bangles
Terracotta Amulet and Pendants
Terracotta Rattles
Miscellaneous Terracotta Objects
14 Stone Sculptures
Grey Stone Plaques
Miscellaneous Stone Reliefs
15 Stone Trays
Stone Caskets and Lids
16 Hand-Mill Stones
Stone Balls
Other Stone Implements
Miscellaneous Stone Objects
17 Objects of Bone, Shell, Glass and Ivory
18 Metal Images
19 Metal Objects
Objects of Gold and Silver
Jewelry Moulds
20 Beads
21 Seals and Seal-Impressions
Other Inscribed Objects
22 Coins
Coin-Moulds
23 Some Structural Objects
24 Decorated Pottery
Potter's Stamps
25 Pottery

Part II: Site of the Apsidal Temple no. 2

26 Sculptures of the Gate
Miscellaneous Stone Sculptures
Sculptures of the Railing
27 Terracotta Moulds and Figurines
Miscellaneous Terracotta Objects
28 Objects of Metal, Bone and Stone
29 Coins
30 Decorated Pottery
Pottery Objects
Pottery

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The present report on the excavations at the mound of Sonkh, District Mathura, incorporates a detailed account of the material remains unearthed in eight seasons (1966–74) by a team of German archaeologists sent out by the Museum of Indian Art, Berlin, under the direction of the author. It replaces the more than 20 campaign and preliminary articles in journals published through the years.

The main objective of the excavation was to collect material informations on the early history of the once-flourishing State of Mathura, one of the most important cultural centres of ancient India. Explorations led to the decision that a thorough excavation of a less disturbed mound outside of Mathura would be more promising than a place in the city itself. The choice fell on the mound of Sonkh which, in spite of visible damages in the upper part of the citadel elevation, showed signs of presumably intact strata of habitation in its base. These expectations came true. The excavations resulted in a terrace-like exposition of not less than 40 habitation levels covering the span from the 8th century BC up to the 19th century AD. The colonization began in the time of the Painted Grey Ware which in Sonkh, according to radiocarbon dates, lasted from about 800 to 400 BC. The excavated structural remains reach in uninterrupted sequence from the PGW period via the mud wall and mud-brick settlements of the period of the Mauryas and the Śuṅga Cultural Phase up to the beginning of baked brick constructions about the end of the 2nd century BC, i. e. the time of the Mitras of Mathura. On top of the Mitra levels (27–25) followed the remains of the Kṣatrapas (Levels 24–23) and Kuṣāṇas (Levels 22–16). From Level 27 to 16 the unearthed structures represented each time a part of a densely built-up area of habitation. With Level 15 the situation changed considerably. Although the structural remains of Level 15 were, in their layout, clearly connected with those of Level 16, it became evident that now the lowest level of the disturbed part of the citadel was in sight or, seen the other way round, that in Level 16 for the first time a closely built-up area of habitation was found preserved. Consequently, the richer lower levels with all their wealth of remains and finds occupy much more space in this report. Nevertheless, the upper Levels 15 to 1 could, though with difficulties, be assigned to distinct periods, as Gupta and Post-Gupta Levels, Medieval Levels, and Late Fortress Levels. The results of the work in the just portrayed main excavation area form Part I of this report, consisting firstly of a technical section dealing with the architectural details of the different levels, and secondly, of a descriptive study of the finds.

Part II records the surprising discovery of a temple area, situated ca 400 metres north of the main excavation zone, where the foundation walls of an apsidal sanctuary have been excavated, its first phase dating from the beginning of the first century BC, the second one, being erected partly upon the walls of the first, belonged to the early Kuṣāṇa period about two centuries later. This second temple served as a sanctuary for the Nāga cult the existence of which was known for Mathura from inscriptions only. Remains of a carved stone railing and of its southern gate, preserving a number of magnificent sculptures, were the most conspicuous finds in the temple area.

The State Department of Cultural Affairs of Uttar Pradesh as well as the Director Generals of the Archaeological Survey of India readily gave permission for the excavations. I would like to take the opportunity to thank all the Indian officers occupied with the matter, and to express my deeply felt gratitude to the then Director Generals of the Survey, the late Mr. A. Ghosh, Professor B. B. Lal, Messrs. M. N. Deshpande and B. K. Thapar, the latter having been associated closely with our work from the very beginning.

The excavations were sponsored by two German institutions, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Society) and the Stiftung Preußischer Kulturbesitz (Prussian Cultural Trust). Their help was simply vital. My thanks are also due to the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany in New Delhi, especially to the members of the Cultural Department, Mrs. M. Duckwitz and Mr. A. Würfel, who made the excavations a part of their own work. With the help of scholarships, granted by the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service), one or two students of Indian art and archaeology were able to join each excavation campaign.

The most essential and practical help has been extended to us by the Curators resp. Directors of the Government Museum, Mathura, and its staff members. Dr. N. P. Joshi, the then chief of the museum, not only helped the author in the discovery of the site but took care of all the mutual problems arising naturally during such a venture in an exemplary way. The common keen interest in ancient Mathura made the cooperation most profitable for both sides. When Dr. R. C. Sharma took the chair in the museum in 1969 I experienced the same friendly support and an equal interest in the problems of Mathura archaeology and art. I have no words to express my gratitude to both, Dr. Joshi and Dr. Sharma, for all the help and cooperation they extended to us. I have benefited greatly from the discussions with them as also with colleagues visiting Sonkh during the time of excavations, especially with Messrs. R. C. Agrawala, P. L. Gupta, S. P. Gupta and Dr. S. C. Kala. I wish to express my thanks also to the late Prof. H. D. Sankalia and Prof. S. B. Deo for the encouraging interest they have always shown in our work. Similarly, I am obliged to Mr. M. C. Joshi, now Director General of the Archaeological Survey, who in 1973 started excavations in Mathura City, for the fruitful exchange of opinions. I am indebted greatly to Dr. A. K. Srivastava, then Numismatic officer at the State Museum, Lucknow, for the identification of coins found in the excavation, and to Dr. O. P. Agrawala, the then Chief Chemical Officer of the National Museum, New Delhi, who kindly treated the two bronze images unearthed in the Kuṣāṇa levels. Concerning the identification of coins, I would like to acknowledge with thanks the contributions of Dr. P. L. Gupta on the hoard of punch-marked copper coins, and of Prof. Dr. R. Göbl of Vienna University who took care of the Kuṣāṇa copper coins (see IV. K. COINS). The extraordinary Kuṣāṇa coin no. 6 in Part II inspired not only Dr. P. L. Gupta but also Prof. B. N. Mukherjee to publish their valuable opinion on it (see Part II, V. G.).

The German excavation architects and field-supervisors were Prof. Dr. A. v. Müller (1966–67), Mr. W. K. Hecker and Mrs. G. Hecker (1967–70), and Dr. R. Weber (1970–74). They were responsible for the digging procedure and the drawing of the plans and sections. At times, they were assisted herein by Messrs. W. Brettschneider, G. Grimmenstein, C. Stollfuß and M. Zimmermann. In the second campaign Dipl. Ing. W. Fauer carried out a topographic survey in order to get a contour plan of the mound of Sonkh. During the first five campaigns Dr. G. Kreisel, at that time a student of Indian art and archaeology, was taking part as an assistant of versatile abilities. I wish to express my gratitude to him for his untiring readiness wherever help was needed.

The photographs accompanying the report have been taken by Messrs. W. Giesenhagen and W. Moisa of the Museum of Indian Art, Berlin. Both were providing first-aid also to the metallic objects and other antiquities in the field. Mr. Moisa, a perfect man in all situations, was helpful even through all the time of my writing this report. The drawings of pottery and other small finds have been produced by Messrs. K. Hennies, H.-J. Paech and J. Klein.

The publication of this report is, in distinct parts, due to the cooperation I have received from Dr. Rolf Weber and Mr. Hans-Jürgen Paech. Dr. Weber contributed to the architectural section (I.D., II.A–H) and helped the author by critically reading part of the manuscript as well as by valuable suggestions during the accomplishment of the report. Mr. Paech, technical assistant in the Museum of Indian Art, contributed the sections on metal objects, beads and pottery along with the pottery drawings. To both of them the author expresses his deep-felt thanks.

The upper levels, i.e. Levels 16 to 1, had originally been treated by Mr. and Mrs. Hecker in a comprehensive German manuscript. Due to the growth and importance of the material found in the lower levels the author had to decide to write a shorter report on Levels 16 to 1. Nevertheless, parts of the summaries in Hecker's unpublished manuscript have been helpful for the purpose at hand and are properly quoted in the respective places.

The photographs of the full-sized plates, especially those of the coins, have been laboriously reproduced in distinct sizes by Mrs. I. Papadopoulos, the photographer of the Museum. I am most thankful to her for all the pains she has taken. Very helpful was the systematic order of the huge triple card index of finds so meticulously organized by Dr. W. Lobo of the Museum of Indian Art. Caused by the growing expenses for the publication, only reduced versions of the plans of the levels could be published in the report. They were redrawn from reproductions of the original drawings (1:50) by Mrs. M. A. K. Kitt, who finalized also figs. 1, 6 and 46 and sketched the hump types of the terracotta bull figurines.

During the long and numerous campaigns the office in Berlin was administered in an exemplary way by the colleagues who had to stay at home. I wish to thank especially Dr. V. Moeller and Mrs. H. Kunz, who made it possible for us to take leave from the daily work for such a long time.

I owe the deepest and foremost debt to Prof. Dr. (Mrs.) M. Yaldiz, the Director of the Museum of Indian Art, Berlin, for her permission to use all the sources and facilities of the museum including the help of staff members. As chairwoman of the council of the Stiftung Ernst Waldschmidt she is also the editor of this volume. I am also very much obliged to the members of the official bodies of the Stiftung Ernst Waldschmidt for including this work in the monograph series and for financing the print of the book.

I am much beholden to Dr. R. Weber, Mr. H.-J. Paech, Dr. L. Sander and the late Mr. S. Sinha for going through parts of the manuscript and for reading the proofs. Not the least I am indebted to Mr. O. Holy, Reiter-Druck Berlin, for his untiring and friendly cooperation and careful printing.

In the end, the author cannot but thank his wife, Rosemarie Härtel, for her help as well as for her understanding and patience during years of work at home.

Finally I crave indulgence of the readers for the remaining misprints and other blemishes due to the "foreign" English that have crept into the report.

H. Härtel

PART I

THE EXCAVATION IN THE CITADEL AREA

I. INTRODUCTION

A. THE PROBLEM AND THE APPROACH

In view of the cultural importance of the ancient State and City of Mathura known to us from literary sources as well as from the vast material of stone sculptures, architectural pieces, terracotta figurines and objects, inscriptions, coins etc., we have to face that the archaeological research in this region lags far behind. The images handed down to us tell of a rich religious life in the early historical period in which Buddhism, Jainism, Hinduism and Folkcults competed with each other. But there are no structural remains extent enough for a reassessment of the antiquity of Mathura and the nature of early historical settlements in its environments. This disappointing situation is, naturally, not to be overcome by a few new small-scale excavations, but only a more purposeful attempt in a larger project might help to throw some more light on the dark period of early Mathura.

With these ideas in mind we decided to undertake something in this direction. Representing the Indian Art and Archaeology research Team of the Museum für Indische Kunst in Berlin we approached as early as 1964 the then Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India, Sri A. Ghosh, for the permission to carry out excavations in Mathura District. In the hope of a decision in favour of our application mentioning the exact site the realization of the idea seemed to be within reach.

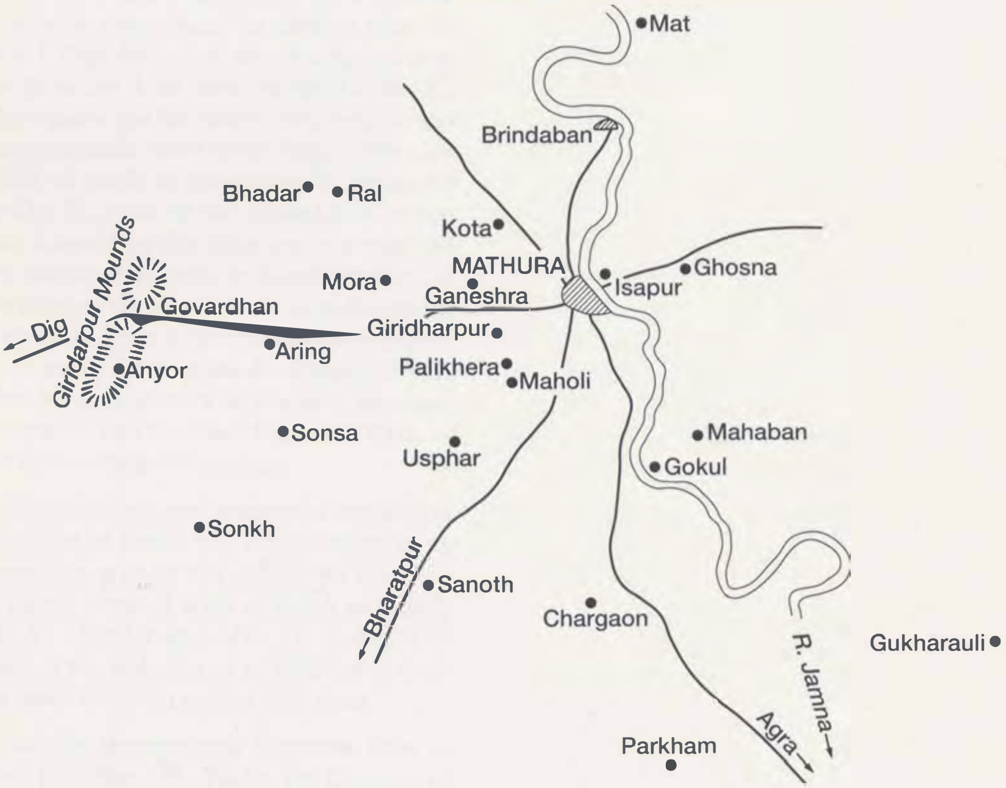
The first question was which of the numerous sites surrounding the city should be selected for excavation. As it was our main interest to find some larger areas of architectural structures of the early period of the old Mathura State, it seemed to be advisable to look for comparably undisturbed mounds in the surroundings instead of those in the city itself (Fig. 1). And among all the promising places visited and discussed in the company of Dr. N. P. Joshi, the then Curator of the Govt. Museum Mathura, the vast artificial plateau within the fields of Sonkh, fourteen miles as the crow flies from Mathura and some eight miles south of the holy Govardhan, attracted the author as being the most suitable object for excavation (Fig. 2).

In his "District Memoir" of Mathura (3rd ed. 1883: p. 383) F. S. Growse remarked: "This (township of Sonkh) lies immediately under the Khera or site of the old fort, of which some crumbling walls and bastions still remain. It was built by a Jāṭ named Hati Singh, of the time of Sūraj Mall of Bharatpur, or Jawāhir Singh; *but the khera itself must be many hundred of years older*". Exploring the top of the mound, Growse's opinion could easily be confirmed by a large number of surface finds of sherds of the Painted Grey Ware and later potteries, of Śuṅga, Mitra and Kuṣāṇa terracotta objects and small fragments of Kuṣāṇa stone sculptures. As realized later, these items were thrown up to the highest point when a large and deep moat was dug in the 18th century. Thus a collection of the contents of the site was presented to us in a most unusual way indicating that an excavation at this place was bound to be successful.

Although the contours of the mound clearly betray a citadel upon the wide plateau, the expectations were, for a short time, mislead by the recollection of an important sculpture *said* to come from Sonkh, i.e. the fragment of a Cakravartin Buddha recording in its inscription the latest known date of Kaniṣka I, the year 23 (Lüders 1961: §136). As during eight campaigns of excavations nothing Buddhistic has been found in this site, we doubt if the, in any case uncertain, provenience "Sonkh" given for that sculpture is correct.

B. REMARKS ON THE NAME AND THE HISTORY OF SONKH

The name SONKH is, in all probability, younger than the ancient settlement on this place. There is no seal or inscription mentioning the old name as, e.g., is the case with the neighbouring village of Aring obviously being so fortunate to have preserved its original designation. For Sonkh, we do not have any source to bring light into its earliest history except archaeological excavation. Even for the later periods we are more or less dependent on hearsay. It was, nevertheless, interesting to observe that the "local tradition" on which F. S. Growse based his notes on Sonkh is still alive with the younger people in the town. Among the more ignorant villagers the absurd story that Sonkh is the place where the demon Śaṅkhāsura lived is as current at present as in Growse's time. But there are still people who retain scraps of information on Sonkh which are worth to be taken as serious. According to Mr. Biri Singh, a teacher in the I. A. College in Sonkh, this place was called Tomargarh in the 8th century AD but named Sonkh in the 11th century after Sonak Pāl, a Tomar Thākur from Delhi. For F. S. Growse this Sonak Pāl was a Sohan Pāl about whom he says (p. 345): "Sonkh, Sonsa, and Sonoth, all three places in the immediate neighbourhood, would also seem to be named after him and to prove that he was an historical personage of at least considerable local importance". Growse has probably heard nothing of a Tomargarh and dates his Sohan Pāl obviously in the 8th century when he, elsewhere in his book (pp. 382–83), says "according to more genuine local tradition,



1 Mathura and surroundings

2 General view of the mound, looking south

(Sonkh) was first founded in the time of Anaṅga Pāl, the rebuilder of Delhi, probably by the same Tomar chief who has left other traces of his name at Son, Sonsa and Sonoth". We are, regrettably, not in a position to clear the contradictions on these informations about the history of the place of Sonkh in this period but would like to point out that the Tomar dynasty knows also an Anaṅga Pāl II (AD 1049–1079) and Anaṅga Pāl III (AD 1128–1149).

Other records concern the more recent history of Sonkh, the period of the Jāṭs. According to Growse the "old fort" was, as already quoted, built by a Jāṭ named Hati Singh, of the time of Sūraj Mall of Bharatpur, or Jawāhir Singh. We have reason to assume that the Jāṭ mud fortress of Sonkh was built at the same time as the rubble-and-mud citadel of Dig under Badan Singh (1722–56) by his son, the then prince regent Sūraj Mall. Sonkh is also mentioned as one of the four strongholds of the Jāṭs in the reign of Aurangzeb (Qanungo 1925: p. 341). This fortress of Sonkh finally stood in the centre of fierce battles fought between the Marāṭhās, Rājputs, Jāṭs and the Mughals (Qanungo 1925: pp. 231 ff.; J. N. Chaudhuri 1977: p. 160) which brought about its end in ca 1775.

These are all informations available about Sonkh. Would we know the ancient name of the locality the situation might be different. But thus it needed the excavations to prove that this place had a hoary past, reaching back far into the first millennium BC.

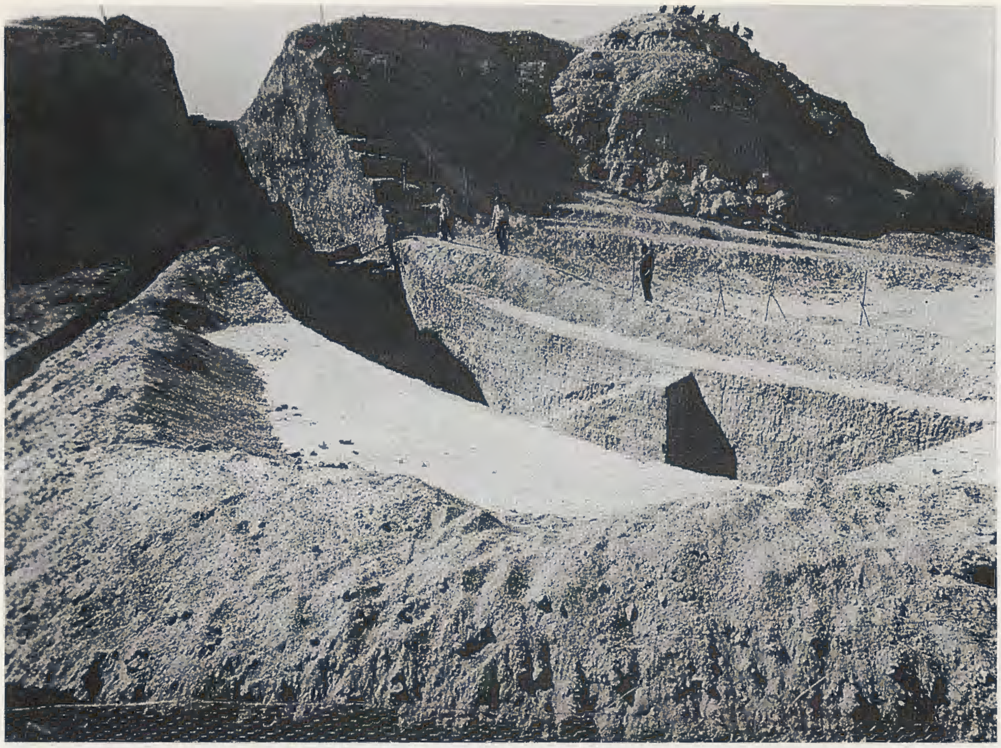
C. THE SITE AND THE EXCAVATION PROCEDURE

The site of Sonkh, 27°24′ North Latitude and 77°30′ East Longitude, is located in Mathura District in Uttar Pradesh. To visit the place from Mathura one has to take the more direct road to Kumbher (25 km) or the detour via Aring and Govardhan (32 km).

As one approaches Sonkh the mound would be seen jutting out against the horizon from far. The site consists of a plateau which originally was of the size of at least 200000 sqm, but is now diminished to a large extent. However, an area of 320 × 280 m, i.e. about 90000 sqm, of the old mound still exists surrounded by fields in the west, north and east. To the south-west the plateau ends rather abruptly on the main road from Govardhan to Bharatpur. South of this road, the wide-spread village of Sonkh, population about 6000, extends on the spur of the ancient mound.

Farther north and north-east of the plateau the ground is rather fractured by the clearing away of a tremendous amount of soil for the construction of the canal running in a bow from north to east along the outskirts of the plane. This canal is in all probability following the line of an old river-bed bounding the site at least in the early historical period as suggested by the structural remains on the small area of ancient ground preserved within the fields like an island (see Part II, Introduction).

In the south the plateau is dominated by an elevation rising ca seven to eight metres above the plane area of the site representing in its upper levels generations of fortifi-



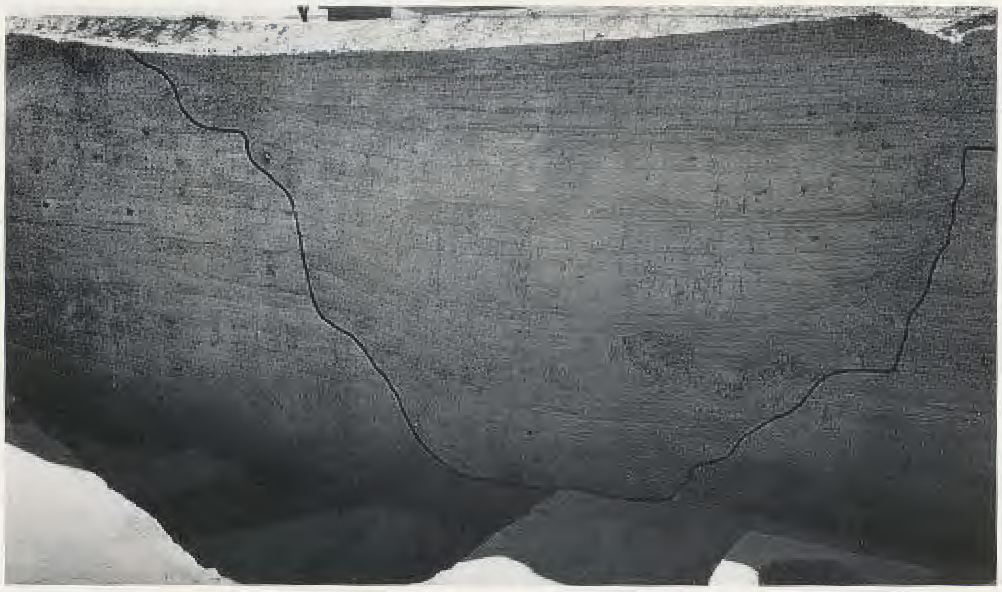
3 Trench 1, looking north

cations built one above the other. This citadel construction covered by hard weatherworn mud measures ca 105 × 90 m and shows at its corners the contours of towers. Into the eastern slope, near to the south-east tower, a large breach is made, washed out by the rains and used nowadays as a path up to the top of the mound. This breach is most probably connected with the construction of a new entrance gate in the last phase of the citadel.

Of the four sloping sides of the citadel elevation the northern fringe appeared to be the least disturbed one. To get an idea of the successive levels covered by the mound, this was the most promising place to make a vertical cut, touching the highest point of the citadel and leading down to the natural soil in a terrace-like partitioned trench. Thus a 36 × 5 m long trench, i.e. Trench 1, was laid in the area 2 V/Ca till 3 I/Ca, penetrating the citadel elevation in a depth of only 10 m, but cutting 26 m into the plane towards north (Fig. 3). The upper part of this Trench 1 reaching into the slope of the elevation revealed fragmentary walls of structures built one above the other dating from the 19th century on top down to the late Kuṣāṇa structures at the foot of the mound, i.e. in the height of the surrounding plateau.

The longer part of the trench laid into the plane ground towards north was expected to show the continuation of settlements down to the natural soil. In the beginning this seemed to be a vain hope because for a long time nothing but mud, brickbats and stones without any structural connection came up. Only when a sufficient depth was reached, the riddle could be solved: Along the foot of the citadel elevation a huge moat had been dug in the period of the last fortification (Level 4) throwing the old soil with all its contents up to the rampart and the highest point of the mound (Fig. 4). Therefore this rampart and the finds in it would be a constant source of confusion when excavating the levels in the plane unless we were carefully paying special attention to the respective areas. Fortunately, the trench was long enough to comprise the whole width of the moat and to show the cultural sequence of the levels on the sloping sides of it. On its surface the moat measured 13.80 m, near to the ground, i.e. close to the natural soil, it tapered down to a width of 3.00 m. The preserved complexes of cultural levels to its sides brought us down to the Painted Grey and Black and Red Wares resting on the virgin soil.

The result of this exploration led to the decision to continue the work by horizontal digging in the north-eastern quadrant of the mound at the side of Trench 1. It needed altogether eight campaigns of terracewise excavations in this limited area to unearth the ancient witnesses of this place as reported and discussed in the stratigraphic chapter below (Fig. 5).



4 Profile of moat of Level 4 crossing Trench 1

D. SURVEY OF THE AREA AND PREPARATIONS FOR EXCAVATION

As it was found out by the ground-research survey and the trial trench of the first campaign (1966/67) that the mound of Sonkh represented a multi-layered site worth to be excavated on a larger scale, preparations for a horizontal digging had to be made.

A topographic survey was started by a surveyor (Dipl. Ing. Walter Fauer, Berlin) to get a contour plan of the mound of Sonkh and the surrounding area resulting in a plan drawn in the scale 1:1000 (Fig. 6).

The contour lines are given at 1.0 m intervals, the 10.0 m lines given in thicker, the 5.0 m ones in dotted lines.

The datum point as main site control point was set arbitrarily due to the lack of a point of known elevation above mean sea level.

The highest point reached in the citadel elevation is about 32.30 m, the surrounding planes at about 23.00–19.00 m, the lowest level reached in course of excavation about 12.00 m.

The surveyed area extends from a section of the Govardhan-Bharatpur road south of the mound about 700 m towards north and, starting about 100 m west of the mound, for a distance of about 600 m to the east. To the north-east the boundary of the surveyed area was formed by the modern canal. Thus a plan was prepared including the mound of Sonkh, the small island of the Cāmuṇḍā temple north to the main excavation area and the surrounding region so far important.

For the purpose of excavation an overall grid system was designed for the whole area, basis of division being 100 m squares. Numerous cemented bench marks as site control points were set in the area of excavation, their position coinciding with the points of intersection of the 100 m squares, marked by numbered circles and giving the respective height at the above datum point. The orientation of the survey map and the plans of the excavation was agreed upon as true north being at the top of the plans. The northern direction has been fixed by measuring the pole star, making allowance for the deviation from the geographic North pole.

The 100 m squares were marked, starting at the south-western corner, by numerals 1–8 in south-north direction and by letters A–G in the west-east direction. For ease of recording within these basic squares a grid system was devised by dividing the 100 m squares in 20 m squares, carrying each in south-north direction the Roman numerals I–V, in west-east direction the small letters a–e, e.g. giving the designation of the first 20 m square as 1 I/Aa and so on.

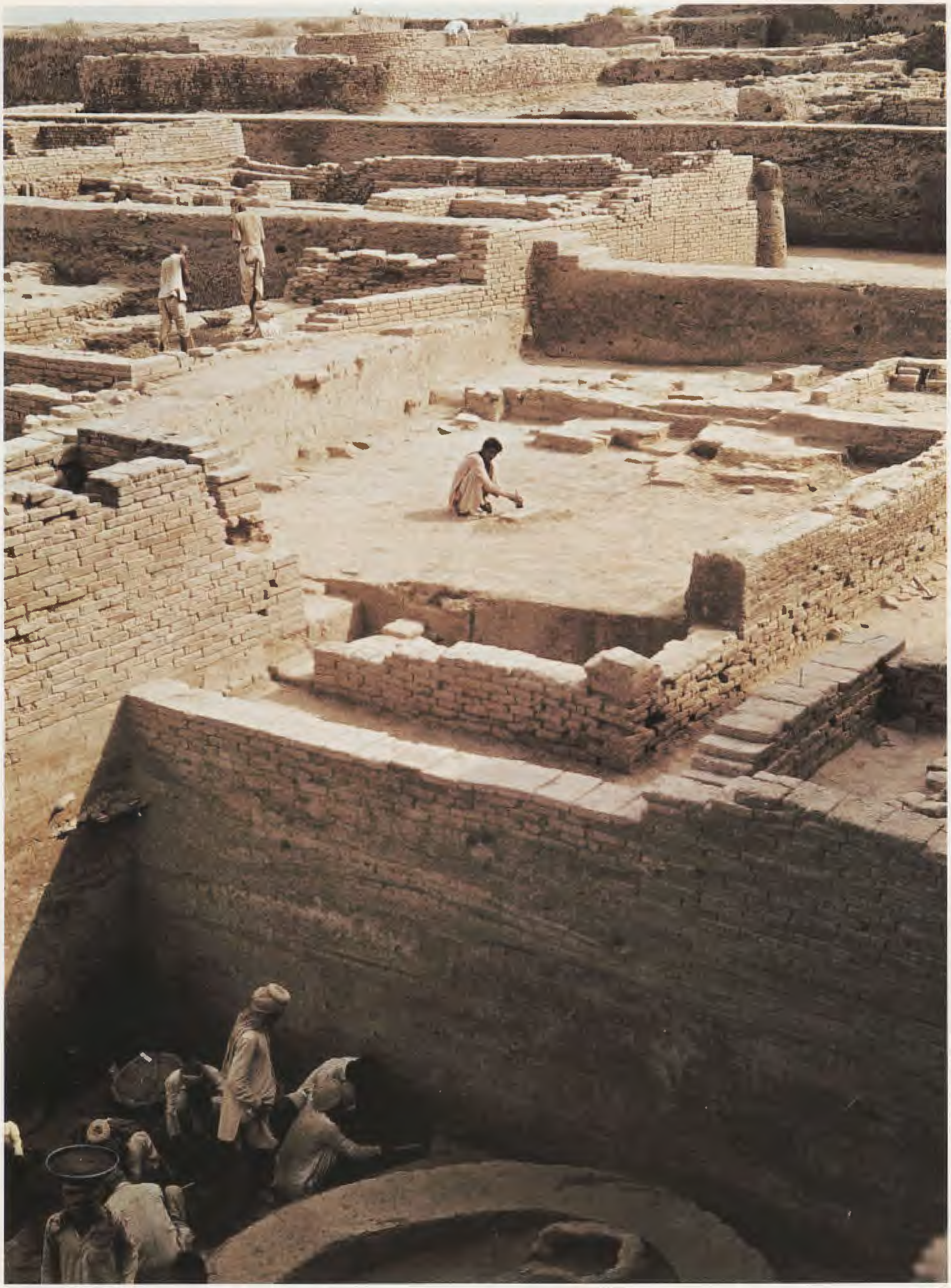
So that all the data could be easily recorded, and all the finds unearthed in their respective area were correctly labelled, measurement started always at the south-western corner of a 20 m square or sub-square in northern resp. eastern direction. A measured point will thus have e.g. the data 2 V 12.50 m / Ca 9.20 m, accompanied by its height according to the bench marks. As the 20 m squares were still too large for actual excavation work 10 m squares were chosen as the working unit. The ground of the excavation area was pegged out, the nodal points of the 20 m and 10 m squares respectively marked by wooden pegs, diagonally posed, giving the designation of the square under excavation.

For the measurement of the excavated structures, and to establish the exact position of major excavated objects, the method of geometrical triangulation was used, height data were measured as far as possible by use of theodolite and levelling rod.

The width of the vertical working balks, taken down after recording the results of the excavation work, was chosen to be 1.0 m, giving as inner field of excavation an area of 9.0 × 9.0 m. For the study of the sequence of levels the inner eastern and southern sides of the working squares were recorded. Apart from detail drawings, the scale of plans and sections is 1:50 uniformly.

The north-eastern corner of the citadel elevation was chosen as the main excavation area. The western profile of Trench 1 and its prolongation towards south-west, running in a deviation of 17 degrees to the south-north direction, was taken as the western boundary of the selected area. The southern border was chosen, starting approximately in the centre of the citadel, running south-east in a deviation of 21 degrees to the west-east direction. The western and southern border lines of the excavation area are meeting thus in an angle of 94 degrees.

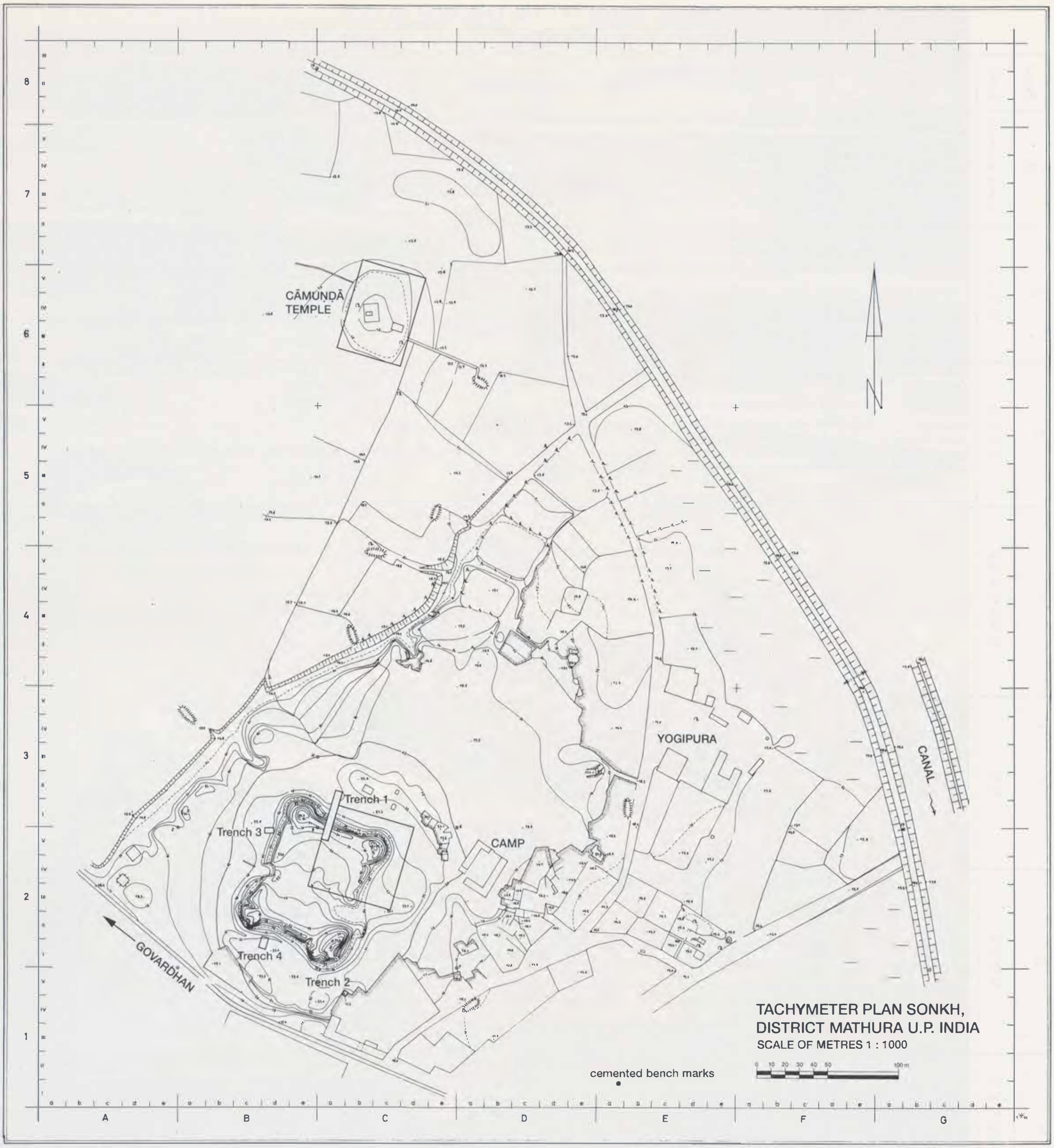
In the beginning the total area under excavation was about 50 × 48 m, i.e. about 2400 square metre, reaching in its larger extension in course of excavation an area of about 4.800 square metres, not including the site of the Apsidal Temple no. 2 (see Part II).



5 Terraces of excavation, Levels 36 to 16

E. SUMMARY OF THE RESULTS

Period	Level	Sub-Periods	Cultural Equipment
VIII	1 2 3 4 5 6 7	Late Fortress Levels Moghuls to Jāts	Black-on-red painted pottery. Moulded grey and red jars and bottles with relief décor in Levels 8 to 6. Appearance of hookah. Successiv fortresses in Levels 7 to 5. Mud fortifications and large moat in Level 4. Arrow-heads, clamps, cannon balls of iron; rings of copper. Terracotta male figures and riders. Hollow animal figurines. Terracotta objects: spindle-whorls, balls, toy-guns. Satti-satta stone reliefs; large stone bowls. Beads of shell only.
VII	8 9 10 11	Medieval Levels	Quantity of pottery finds considerably reduced. Types of Period VI continuing. Décor mainly of black painted stripes, swans and peacocks. Cone lid with knob replaces bell-shaped and bowl lid. Appearance of thin grey ware, white-slipped, incised and painted. Alignment of buildings from now diagonally to the cardinal directions. Caravanserai in Level 11. Levels 10 to 8 developing residential areas again. In Level 8 four coins of Sher Shah Suri. Rods, nails, chain of iron; plate of copper; ring of brass. Terracotta female figures and fragments of satti-satta plaques. Few animal figurines. Terracotta discs, spindle-whorls, game-pieces, balls. Last specimens of grey stone plaques depicting deities in Level 11. Long pestle, hammer stone. Beads as in VI.
VI	12 13 14 15	Gupta to Early Medieval	Red, mostly red-slipped ware, delicately thrown, smooth surface, distinct black horizontal stripes. Later on black painted swans and floral pattern. Moulded bowls with relief ornaments; goblet with moulded bowl and stem. Bottles with sprinkler necks and spouts. From Level 15 upwards strongly disturbed building area. Arow-heads, rods, tubes pincers, chisel, nails, hooks, chains of iron. Dish, bottles, wire of copper and brass. Terracotta female figures; fragment of a larger relief with Makara. Horse and humped bull most favourite terracotta animals. Votive tank and water jug. Terracotta objects: wheels, discs, spindle-whorls, dabbers, game pieces, balls. Grey stone plaques depicting deities; trays. Rotary quern of stone. Beads of usual materials except copper. No incised types.
V	16 17 18 19 20 21 22	Kuṣāṇas	Red ware with the characteristic Kuṣāṇa stamping of storage vessels, jars etc. with symbolic, floral and geometric ornaments. Moulded small bowl. Spouted water jars. Seven levels showing more or less densely built up area of houses. Occasionally working area without building. Apsidal Temple no. 1 in the habitation area. Coins of Wima Kadphises, Kaniṣka I, Huviṣka, Vāsudeva and successors. Bronze figures of Skanda and a deitie couple. Arrow-heads, spear-heads, knifes, sickles, clamps, rattle bell of iron; cart, antimony rods, bangles, rings of copper. Terracotta human figurines, depiction of gods and goddesses. Animal figurines, mostly humped bulls. Inscribed seals; coin moulds; pottery stamps. Votive tanks. Usual terracotta objects. Stone sculptures and reliefs. Trays and caskets. Inscribed stone fragments. Mill stones as before. Bone styli; shell bangles. Beads of all materials and types, including such of lapis lazuli and incised and etched types.
IV	23 24	Kṣatrapas & Rāmadatta	Red ware, characterized by definite differences in the shapes. Globular water jar, small goblet, beaker. In the end of this period the fashion of stamping the vessels with symbols begins. Houses now built in sections and protected at street-corners with large stone blocks. House with bathroom and toilet. No roof-tiles anymore. Coins of Hāgāmaṣa, Rājuvula, Śoḍāsa, Rāmadatta. Arrow-heads, spear-heads, knifes, chains, rods, clamps, spoons, ladle of iron. Goblet with bowls of copper. Terracotta human figurines, Kṣatrapa type of mother goddess. Humped bull most favourite animal. Votive tank with seated mother goddess figures. Terracotta objects as before. Inscribed seals. Stone objects: mortars, ring-stones, dabbers, pestles, Caskets. Inscribed fragments. Bone styli; shell bangles. Beads of all materials except lapis lazuli. No incised and etched types.
III	25 26 27 28	Mitras of Mathura	Red Ware types continuing. New shapes, esp. ovoidal storage jars with appliqué cordons and symbols (svastika, nandyāvarta). Handles in shape of monkeys. Beginning of baked brick construction in Mitra Level 27. Regular town planning. Houses constructed by grouping of rooms around an inner courtyard. Terracotta ring-wells in private houses. Gable roofs with roof-tiles and pinnacles. Inscribed copper coins of Gomitra, Sūryamitra, Brahmamitra, Viṣṇumitra. New: spear-head, sickle, brand-iron, ring of iron; hook, toggle, ring, antimony rod and wheel of copper; bracelet, bangle of brass. Terracotta human plaques, animal figurines (mainly elephant and horse). Square and round votive tanks to be filled with water. In addition to Period II terracotta toy-carts, dabbers, rattles, amulet and pendants. Inscribed seals. Stone objects: rectangular quern plates, pestles, dabbers, discs, balls. Stone caskets. Bone styli, shell bangles. Beads of all types and material except lapis lazuli. No etched and incised beads. First appearance of faience.
II	29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36	Śuṅga Cultural Phase Maurya Pre- and Early Maurya	Northern Black Polished Ware; coarsegrey ware; black-slipped grey ware; ordinary red ware. Fashion ofterracotta heads on shoulder of vessels. Animal-shaped vessels. Mud wall structures in Levels 36–30. Beginning of mud-brick construction in Level 29. Fragment of mosaic. Silver and copper punch-marked coins; uniscribed cast and die-struck coins. Arrow-heads, rods, nails of iron; bracelet of copper. Terracotta human figurines, mostly black-slipped, in later phase of period in shape of reddish plaques. Terracotta animal figurines, elephant most favourite. Fragments of round votive tanks. Terracotta wheels, discs, spindle-whorls, skin-rubbers, reels, game pieces, plain and decorated balls, bangles. Jewelry mould. Stone quern tables, balls. Anthropomorphic bone figure. Beads of all materials except lapis lazuli, faience, blue, black and yellow glass and gold-foil.
I	37 38 39 40	Painted Grey Ware Black-and-Red Ware	Painted Grey Ware and, to a lesser degree, Black and Red Ware. Black-slipped Ware. Ordinary red and red-slipped ware. Vessels partly decorated with incised, impressed or applied paterns. At theend of the period coarse grey ware. No mud or mud-brick walls but post-holes and reed impressions. Brick-like pieces of mud from fireplaces. Two ditches with small rampart in between, perhaps part of the northern enclosure of the habitated area. Iron arrow-heads, blade of an adze or axe. Fragments of terracotta animal figures; discs, plain and decorated balls, bangles. Beads of carnelian, agate and copper. Hammer stone.
			Natural Soil


CĀMUṆḌĀ TEMPLE
YOGIPURA
CANAL
CAMP
Trench 1
Trench 3
Trench 4
Trench 2
GOVARDHAN
N
TACHYMETER PLAN SONKH,
DISTRICT MATHURA U.P. INDIA
SCALE OF METRES 1 : 1000
cemented bench marks
0 10 20 30 40 50 100 m
1
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A
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G

6 Tachymeter plan of the mound of Sonkh

II. GENERAL SITUATION OF THE TRENCHES

In course of the eight excavation campaigns the stratification of the earlier phases of habitation was examined in trial trenches in several places within the excavation area and its surroundings. The main attention was directed to the Painted Grey Ware levels as well as to the formation of archaeological remains upon and above it, beginning with the Early Maurya level 36 and reaching upto Level 27, the structures of which were exposed at first in a larger extent. The position of the trenches and their extension are documented in the surveyor's plan (Fig. 6).

The extension of Trench 1 and the layout of the trenches within the later excavation area, squares 2 IV/Be and 2 IV/Cc, during the campaigns 5 to 8 had to take in account the already exposed structures of the Kuṣāṇa period in 2 IV as well as those of the Mitra level 27 in 2 V.

Trench 2 was dug in the precincts of a cut-off part to the south of the citadel. Trenches 3 and 4 are situated at the western and southern slope of the ramparts of the citadel elevation. These trenches provided sufficient information on the extension of the levels and the structural and chronological succession of the early epochs of habitation below the well exposed Mitra level 27. The area covered, i.e. enclosed by the trenches has an extension of 150 m in the north-south direction and 90 m from west to east.

In all the trenches natural soil was reached underneath the lowest level of PGW. To be on the safe side, the soil was examined in parts down to a depth of 3.0 metres. However, no traces of older habitation phases could be made out.

In some places a sharp line was marking itself between the ochre to reddish-yellow, slightly loamy, sandy ground of the PGW levels and the more whitish-light grey to yellowish sand of the natural soil which is mixed with mica and kankar; but in parts a gradual change could be ascertained as well.

A. THE TIME OF THE PAINTED GREY WARE

1. The Trench 1 and its Extension

In the first excavation campaign of 1966/67 a trench of 36.0 by 5.0 metres was laid in the squares 2 V/Ca to 3 II/Ca (Härtel 1967 and 1968) cutting down through the northern slope of the citadel elevation (Fig. 3). In the northern part of Trench 1 the natural soil was reached on an area of ca 75 sqm. The ceramic finds of the Painted Grey Ware period, the levels of which lay directly on the natural soil, were surprisingly extensive inspite of the rather limited dimension of the cut. This has to be attributed for the most part to the exposure of a ditch belonging to this time, the course of which is crossing the trench (Fig. 4). To corroborate the information so far gained and to integrate the trench into the grid system of the excavation, an extension to ca 240 sqm was started in the campaign 1970/71 (Härtel 1972).

The average thickness of the culture levels of the PGW period was 1.0 m in the region of Trench 1. The upper edge of the natural soil rose from ca 14.25 m in the northern to ca 14.50 m in the southern part. The upper limit of the PGW levels was reached here, in the undisturbed area, at ca 15.50 m. Within this stratum of rather uniform consistency (see below) could be ascertained the remains of diverse superimposed levels of habitation partly coinciding with thicker layers of sherds. Together with the typical PGW, which gave the name to this period, sherds of Black-and-Red Ware (BRW), Coarse Grey Ware as well as partially decorated Red Ware were found in all spheres of the PGW levels.

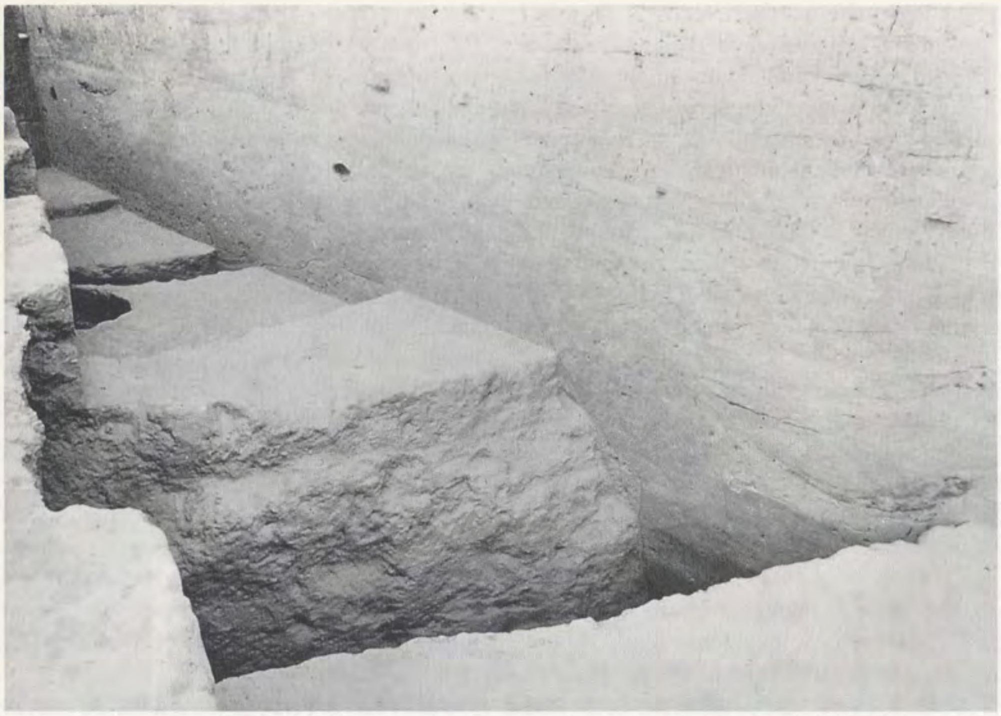
Level 40, Phase 1 and 2

Running parallel, two ditches of different width cut through the excavation area from WNW to ESE in the northern part of Trench 1 (Fig. 7). They were sunk directly into the natural soil in the first dwelling phase of the mound of Sonkh. The bigger ditch, partly more than 2.75m wide at the top, upper edge at about 14.50 m, was ca 2.20 m deep ending on a level of ca 12.30 m. The bottom of the smaller ditch, ca 0.70 m wide, lay at 13.30 m, ca 0.80–0.90 m beneath the lower outer ground level. The average distance from the middle of one ditch to that of the other , was ca 4.50 m, whereas the overall measurement of the ditch system varied between 6.00 and 6.50 m. The ground sloped ca 0.25 m slightly from west to east in the neighbourhood of the ditches. Correspondingly the bottom of the bigger ditch inclined gradually, it lay about 0.45 m higher at the western side. However, it cannot be excluded that these differences in height appear in a small part of the ditch system only. Thus it remains doubtful whether the whole of the ditch system was laid out in the gradient or on a rather even level.

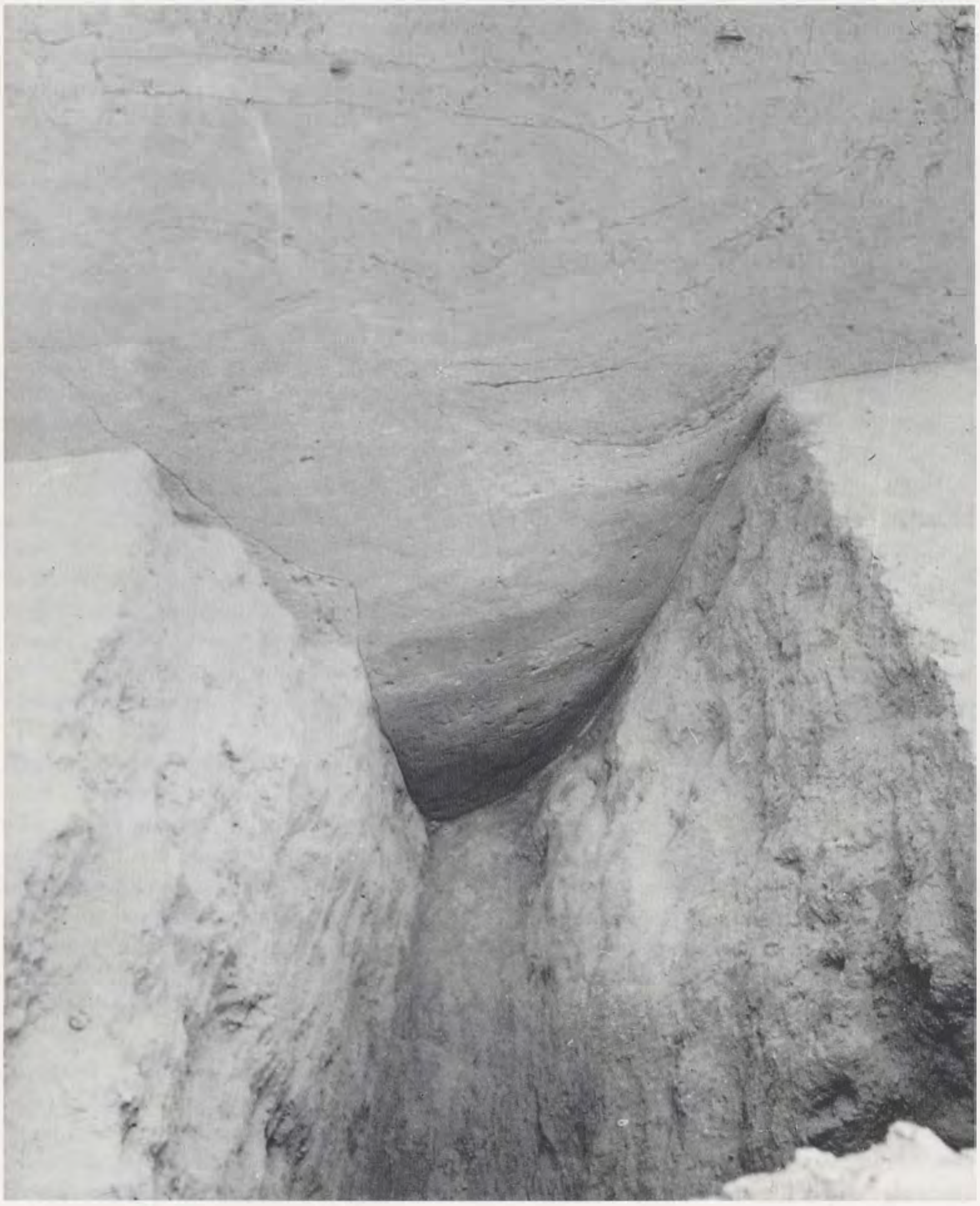
The original profile of the bigger ditch was almost trapeze-shaped, narrowing to ca 0.60 m at the bottom (Fig. 8). The width of the bottom of the smaller ditch was ca 0.40 m, the original angle of inclination of the ditch embankments lay at 70° to 80°. Yet, through erosions and partial gliding-down of the loose soil the slopes of the embankments showed rather varying angles of inclination in course of the ditch. Temporary water-bearing can be presumed on account of single firm alluvial layers, but it is rather doubtful whether the ditches have borne water constantly. On the basis of the upper alluvial layers it could be concluded that the ditches later on were flooded from the south and filled up, the surface water streaming in carrying with it the rather loose soil. The area lying between the both ditches was banked up and raised while digging the ditches, the more horizontal line now marking in the profile to be attributed to an erosion.

For this earliest habitation phase as well as for those following of the PGW period no remains whatsoever of structures of mud or mud-brick could be determined in Trench 1. Some post-holes met with in higher levels as well as remains of clay-impressions indicate the use of easily perishable building material. The significance of the ditch system and its relation to the whole habitation area was stressed by the overall situation met with, the alluvial layers of the southern larger 'inner' ditch yielding the greater number of ceramics found in theses levels. In addition to numerous sherds of PGW, BRW and ordinary Red Ware, there were found also several larger fragments of vessels and likewise 25 sherds of a bowl (POTTERY I.12) of a coloured variant of the PGW, in a height of 13.05 m. Presumably, the bowl which could be completely put together from the sherds, slipped into the at that time water-bearing ditch and broke on the bottom. A vessel of associated Red Ware, 23.0 cm high, could be recovered unbroken in the height of ca 13.30 m (POTTERY I.49). In the trench area south of the ditches likewise sherds of PGW were found in a range of 14.60 to 14.40 m, to be regarded as synchronous with the construction of the ditch system. Rather different was the situation while excavating the smaller of the two ditches and the area lying north of it. Here only single sherds were found sporadically in an average range of 14.20 to 14.40 m.

These results, in connection with the form of the ditch system, leads to the conclusion that we have to regard the ditches as lying at the periphery of the habitation, at least in the initial phase of the PGW period. Worth



7 View of the two PGW ditches



8 The bigger PGW ditch

mentioning in this connection is a general slight ascent of the level by ca 1.0m towards south.

Through erosion and flooding the ditch system seems to have been filled up in relatively short time. Thus an effort was made to erect again a sort of small bullwork, the height of the dwelling level in the southern, inner region still unchanged. The new, rather narrow ditch with a depth between 0.80 and 0.90m followed the course of the larger ditch of the older construction. The bank between the former ditches, eroded in the meantime, was raised to ca 0.50m thereby. The ground extending northwards had raised too so that for the second phase of Level 40 an average height of 14.50m was to be noted for the southern as well as for the northern level. In contrast to Phase 1, an increased accumulation of sherds was to be observed at this height in the outer region as well.

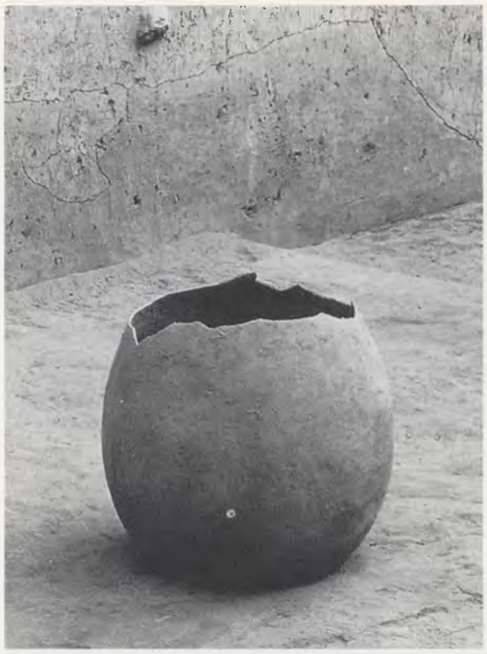
Above the alluvial and filling layers of this second phase of Level 40 several conflagrations and ash deposits, upto 1.00m wide, were found in the ditch area. Of different strength, partly upto 20.0cm thick, they could be followed in the course of the ditch for a length of more than 8.00m. They consisted of several layers of reddish brown to black ashes with scanty remains of charcoal, mixed partly with sand.

Level 39

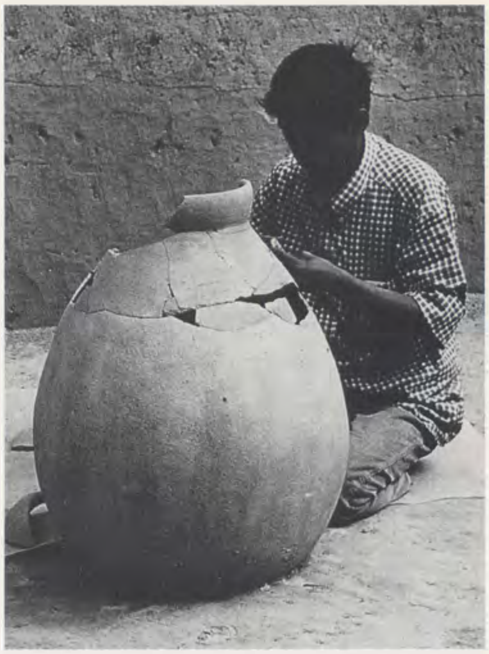
Within the ca 1.00m stratum rising above the lowermost Level 40, it was rather difficult to gain a clear stratification. The homogeneity of the deposit-layers prevented the tracing of levels over a longer distance. It was only possible to determine a sequence in places of limited, superimposed layers of sherds, ashes etc. Fortunately, this opportunity was given to a certain extent in the northern part of Trench 1 (3 II/Ca).

The level of ca 14.80 in 3 II/Ca, ascending to ca 14.85m in the southern area of the trench, must be regarded as new phase of habitation. A big jar of red ware (POTTERY I.40), standing in the ground was found at 3 II 0.2/Ca 17.8. The base lay at 14.80m, directly above a layer of ashes of the filled-up ditch system (Fig. 9). The vessel, sunk ca 10.0cm into the soil, was still exposed ca 45.0cm above the level. The rim and portions of the shoulder were broken off on account of the soil resting on them later on, their sherds however were found on the bottom inside the vessel and could be joined on the spot. The excellent state of preservation speaks of a long period of use. The diameter of the jar is 57.5cm, its height 76.0cm (Fig. 10). Presumably it was used as water jar because neither any remains of grain nor any residue of decomposition were found inside the vessel. Smaller traces of flow, like a flat gully filled with alluvial sand, to the north of the vessel, support this conclusion. North of the base of this pot, in a height of 14.90 to 14.80m, an intense occurence of potsherds was to be observed likewise.

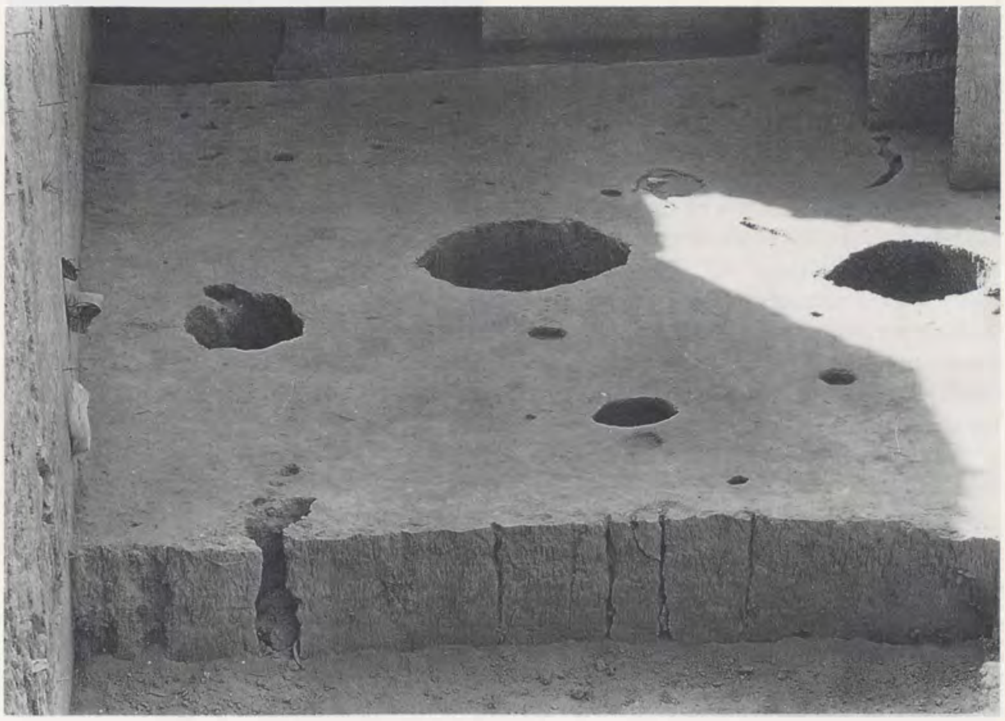
A layer of grey-brown ashes at 3 I 17.5–19.0/Ca 18.0–19.5 ascended slightly towards south from 14.70 to 14.95m. The average thickness of this layer, a mix of rotted remains and sand, amounted to ca 10.0cm. Also belonging to this level is a layer of sand in 3 I 6.5–15.0/Ca 13.5–19.5 with an average height of 14.85m. Irregular depressions with diameters between 10.0 and 35.0cm of various depths (post-holes), filled up with brownish loamy sand, as well as some smaller gullys make it possible to fix this occupation phase. Four small holes, arranged around the bigger depression, resulted in a slightly



9 Big red ware jar in PGW-Level 39



10 Jar of fig. 9 being put together



11 Sand floor with post-holes, Level 39

rhombic ground-plan from 2.70 to 2.90 m. Most probably, they are to be regarded as post-holes of a wooden construction similar to a "tent" with central support (Fig. 11).

The charcoal specimen, collected at 3 I 11.5/Ca 14.2, H. 14.80 m and to be assigned to this level showed for this height a date of 695 cal BC (see CHRONOLOGY).

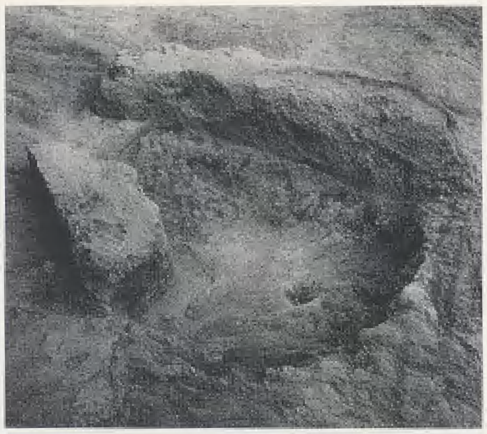
Level 38

Level 38 could only be marked out in the region of 3 II 6.25–7.7/Ca 13.5–17.0. Remains of animal bones together with ash spots and traces of conflagration near the fragments of vessels allow to consider this area with an average height of 15.00 m as a habitation level. To the south of this field, at 3 II 5.9/Ca 14.5–15.5, were found at the same height some burnt red lumps of clay, most probably remains of fireplaces.

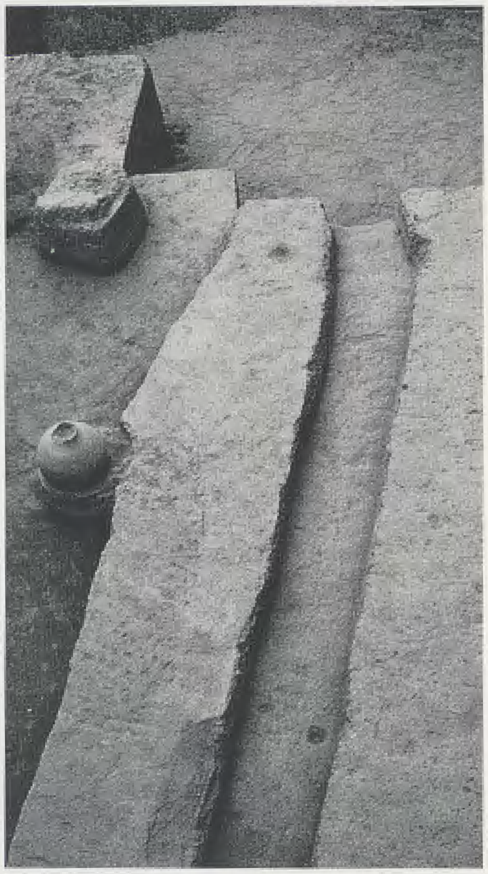
Level 37

The uppermost occupation level, ascertained within the PGW period, lay at a height of 15.20 to 15.30 m. In the northern part of Trench 1, at 3 II 4.5–7.0/Ca 15.5–18.0, a fireplace of loamy-clayey sand was exposed (Fig. 12). The slightly oval, ca 55.0 cm wide and 70.0 cm long construction was situated on a level of 15.25 m average height. The fire-pit was sunk 8.0 cm into the ground. Its bottom as well as the inner sides of the ca 10.0 cm thick and 12.0 cm high walling were reddened by burning. This walling is likely to be considered as horseshoe-shaped, inspite of partial destruction. To the south of the fireplace, at a distance of ca 0.55 m, was situated a 25.0 cm deep pit, diameter 75.0 cm. Its filling consisted of darkish yellowish brown and loamy sand with some rotted remains. The significance of the pit in connexion with the fireplace remains unclear. In the neighbourhood (3 II 7.0–7.7/ Ca 13.5– 14.5) was ascertained in a height of 15.20 m a thin layer of rotted remains of plant origin. To the west, bordering almost directly on the fireplace, was found a ca 10.0 cm thick layer of ashes, reddish brown to light grey, mixed with sand and rotten material. It extended over the area 3 II 6.2–7.2/Ca 18.0–19.5 in a height of 15.15 to 15.30 m, probably used as a dump for the ashes produced by the use of the fireplace.

The upper edge of the destroyed shoulder portion of the big water jar of Level 39, about 6.00 m south of the fireplace, was reached at ca 15.25 m. It cannot be said with certainty whether this pot was continuously used upto the time of Level 37, but a longer duration of use exceeding the period of Level 39 can be assumed definitely.



12 Fireplace in Level 37, Trench 1



13 Gully in Level 37, Trench 1

In a height of 15.16–15.21 m a small firm sand-loam level was preserved in the southern part of Trench 1 (3 I 3.5–7.5/Ca 14.0–17.5). In this field a gully was found, 0.40–0.45 m wide and running from NNE towards SSW, in an average depth of 0.20 m (Fig. 13). In contrast to the more yellowish ground it was filled up with sand of whitish colour. A little westward of the gully, at 3 I 6.2/Ca 14.0, a globular jar was found standing in the ground (POTTERY I.53). Its bottom lay at 15.10 m, the upper edge of the broken rim portion at 15.40 m. The missing sherds, found in the vicinity, could however be joined to it later. It is a 36.5 cm high vessel of Red Ware with dark red vitrified slip. Noteworthy is a stamped potter's mark on the inner side of the rim, a circle with a semicircle opening above, of the height of 0.8 cm. Another sherd (So II 2431) with the same mark, found in the direct neighbourhood, gives evidence for a frequent use of this sign at the time. A nearly round and reddish burnt sand-loam area, diameter ca 0.50 m, was situated a little northwards of the vessel. It could be interpreted as the spot of a fireplace.

The upper edge of the whole, clearly marked stratum of PGW levels did not run quite horizontal in this southern part of Trench 1. At the western side, it lay at 15.50 m, in the central region directly beneath the foundations of the mud wall in Level 35. The lower edge of this foundation, height 15.40 m, corresponds to the upper edge of the vessel described above (I.53), the rim of which had been destroyed during the work for the mud wall. At the eastern side, soil of a different colour lay directly above the Level 37, resulting thereby in a surface slightly sloping from west towards east, of the PGW deposits. The jumble of layers above 15.30 m in the northern part of Trench 1 made it impossible here to pinpoint the upper boundary. Rather there was a picture of mingling and of gradual transition from the ochre-coloured sandy soil of the PGW levels to the more loamy earth of the younger periods coloured dark to an increasing extent and interspersed with ashes.

2. Further Trenches

The different trenches carried out in successive years inside and outside the main excavation area furnished additional informations on the extension and sequence of the different periods of habitation. In the following report they are dealt with in chronological order of their excavation.

Trench 2

Trench 2 lies at a distance of 140.00 m from Trench 1 on the south-eastern rampart of the citadel mound, where a part of it had been cut off by a merchant in recent years. The cut was restricted to 3.00 by 3.00 m, the alignment oriented on the local conditions. Starting at about 17.30, the upper edge of the PGW stratum, consisting here of the same firm yellowish-ochre coloured sand as in Trench 1, was reached at ca. 16.30 m. Besides large numbers of sherds of PGW as well as BRW, single fragments of treated shell and bone were found. At ca 15.30 m, the natural soil was reached directly below the lowest PGW level. Rather conspicuous is the conformity in the total thickness of the levels of the PGW period, about 1.00 m, as met with in Trench 1.

Trench 3

West of the plateau, directly at the foot of the rampart of the citadel elevation, the Trench 3, 4.00 m wide and 7.00 m long, was laid in west-east direction (2 V/Bd). The excavation of the PGW stratum, upper height at about 16.40 m in this area, brought a rich result in bigger fragments of the typical PGW (POTTERY I.3; 7; 9–10; 14–15). Similarly, besides the normal Red and Grey Wares, sherds of BRW were found as well (POTTERY I.19; 21).

The heigth of the natural soil of the southern part, lying higher, amounted to ca 15.00 m, being bounded diagonally by an embankment edge, running from WNW towards ESE. North of this line the natural soil was secured at ca 14.00 m. Due to the limited dimensions of Trench 3 it could not be ascertained whether this had to be regarded as a natural gradation of the site or to be attributed to human activities. There are several reasons speaking for a further ditch system similar to the structures found in Trench 1. Not only that the embankment was running almost parallel to the course of the ditch in Trench 1 but also the alluvial layers marked out in the east profile can be taken as support for this conjecture. They correspond to the typical and unmistakable picture of the alluvial and deposit layers in the filled-up ditch construction of Level 40. As there, several ash layers could be located in the upper third of the levels in Trench 3. In the north-eastern corner of the excavation area a further depression was noted starting from the level 14.10 m. As the depression could be exposed only to a small part, it remained unclear whether it formed part of the assumed ditch structures or, more probable perhaps, a sort of well structure, which was filled up with mostly reddish ashes, sherds and rubbish after being out for use.

Within the filling layers of this area were found several big lumps of tempered and fired clay in a height of 14.80–14.20 m. Vaguely similar in shape to baked bricks, they are probably to be regarded as remains of fireplaces.

Trench 4

As the last of the trenches laid outside the main excavation site, Trench 4 was measured in at the foot of the southern rampart of the mound (2 I/Bd), about 80.00 m southward of Trench 3 and 40.00 m northwest of Trench 2. Unfortunately, a part of the deposits of this 5.00 by 10.00 m wide trench was disturbed by the large moat, dug in the times of Level 4, partly reaching down to the natural soil and surrounding the whole citadel elevation. The natural soil was reached in the northern part at 15.50 m, towards south, the ground rose to 15.75 m. The strength of the deposits of PGW could not be determined precisely. The upper edge of the slightly loamy ochre-grey sand-layers was reached in a height of ca 16.45 m. Above it, most varying layers were deposited upto ca 17.60 m. Between 16.70 and 16.80 m, above a dark layer of earth with a few PGW sherds, the whole area was covered by a 10.0–15.0 cm strong layer of debris and lumps of fired clay. Within this layer could be preserved several small fragments of clay-daubing burnt red by fire (So III G 168–175), apparently to be regarded as remains of a clay-daubing on canework of the strength between 0.6–1.3cm. The lumps found were of clay of very fine texture. In connection with the slightly concave curvature of the pieces, this indicates that they might be remains of a fine interior daubing of a round house of canework (cp. B. B. Lal 1954/55, p. 13).

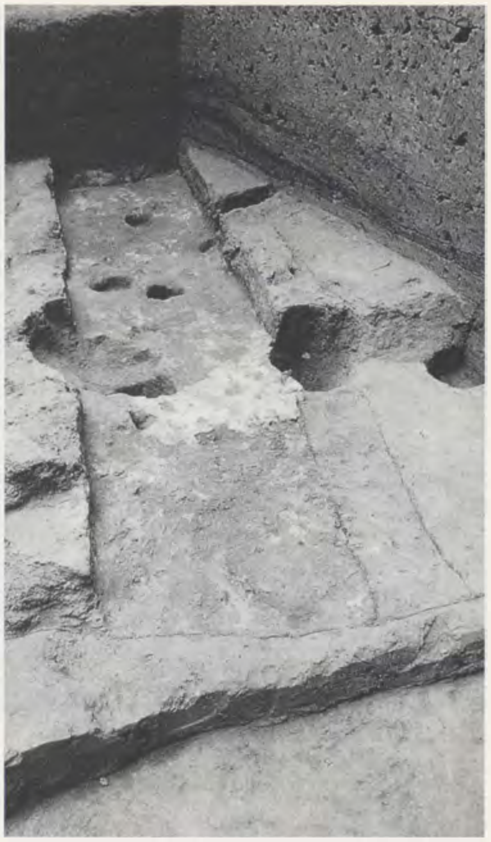
Above this layer of burning and destruction followed layers of alluvial sand being interspersed with sandy clay. At ca 17.60 m occured lumps of clay, tempered strongly with fibres of plant, not burnt thoroughly, in the midst of yellowish sand, overlaid by a layer of ashes.

The total number of pottery sherds found was too small to get an exact sequence of the levels with the help of their distribution. However, the BRW sherds were found together with the PGW almost exclusively in the lower stratas.

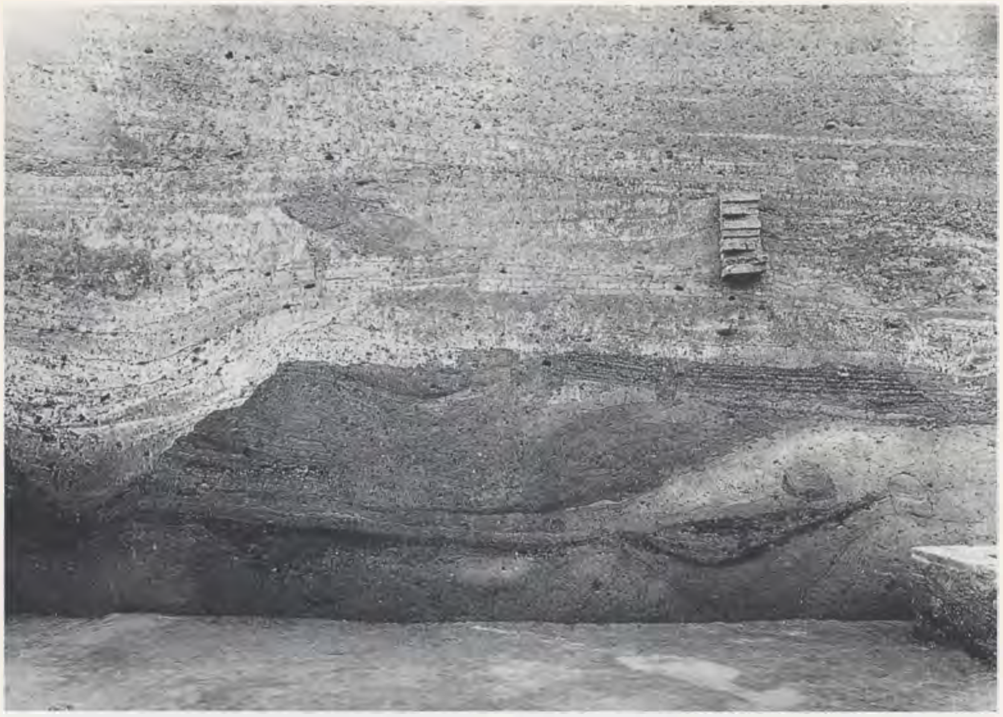
It seems probable that this area was not colonised for a time. The alluvial layers encountered above 16.80 m point to this as well. Through erosion of the settlement area, situated higher on to the north, a gradual elevation of the area took place towards the end of the PGW period though.

Trench Area 2 IV/Be

In addition to the trenches described above it was tried to obtain further informations on the situation of the PGW levels within the boundaries of the main excavation area, without endangering the substance of the structures, worth preserving, of younger levels. In the southwest corner of the excavation field, in 2 IV/Be, the upper edge of the PGW levels was reached at ca 15.95 m. The last level of the PGW period was constituted by a structure not to be ascertained clearly in its function like that of Level 37, described above.


14 Gully in Level 37, Trench 2 IV/Be

In the southern part of the excavated area came to light the remains of a ca 3.00 m long gully, 50.0–55.0 cm wide and running from WNW towards ESE (Fig. 14). Right and left of its course stood out clearly perpendicular casings 15.0–18.0 cm strong, which were burnt red and blackened in part in the inside. The gully was filled up with a more or less 8.0 cm thick layer of yellowish white to light grey ashes, the ground burnt strongly red. The upper edge of the casings lay at 15.82–15.99 m, partly destroyed by the following level, the bottom at ca 15.80 m. The height of the area north of it is to be fixed with ca 15.90 m. Below this level no further structures or levels of occupation could be determined. However, in a height of 15.40 m a charcoal sample could be taken from the spot 2 IV 8.45/Be 17.50 which produced a date of 648 cal BC (see CHRONOLOGY). The finds, modest occurrence of PGW sherds, offered no help for a division of this



15 Trench 2 IV/Cc. Western profile

package of levels in different occupational phases. Underneath 15.00 m isolated sherds were found only sporadically; a gradual transition to the natural soil interspersed with kankar was to be noted.

Trench Area 2 IV/Cc

The 9.00 by 17.50 m large trench laid at the eastern side of the excavation area gave some important hints regarding the situation at the beginning of the occupation of the site. Underneath the earliest building structures, i.e. mud wall structures of the Level 35, exclusively alluvial layers of differing consistence were discovered, their nature could be examined by going down, in some parts, to 12.60 m. They formed the filling of a great ditch which ran through this part of the excavation site from NNW towards SSE. Its presumed width amounted to 9.00 m, its depth at least 3.50 m. Because of the small area exposed and the destruction caused by the moat of Level 4 sunk in in late medieval times, the exact chronological assignment was rendered difficult, there were however some helpful hints in the trench area.

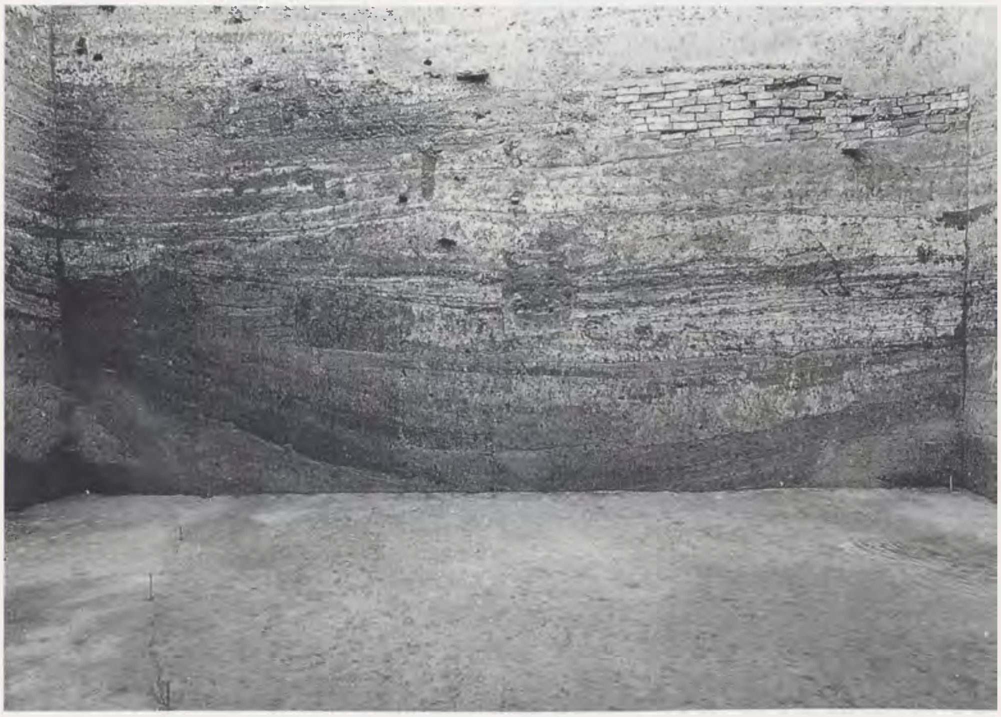
At the eastern side of the ditch, i.e. in the northeast corner of the trench, the original level was found undisturbed in a small area, height 14.60 m, upon which later layers in a strength of ca 0.30 m, upto the lower edge of the foundation of Level 35, had been deposited. West of this socle of the natural soil, composed of ochre to light grey sand, the slope of the ditch dropped deeply down. In the southwest corner of the trench, only in a small part, sherds of PGW were found. Apart from this, the western side showed bigger erosions and ditch-like inlets, whose alluvial layers alternated with those of ashes and conflagration deposits (Fig. 15).

The lower alluvial layers of the ditch, consisting of a material similar to the natural soil, contained no sherds at all but a big quantity of incrustations. This speaks for the existence of the ditch before the beginning of the settlement of the Painted Grey Ware time, thus excluding that we are dealing with an artificially made ditch, similar to that of Trench 1. It is rather to be regarded as a side branch or an old bed of the river, following the course of which the modern canal was built in later times.

Above the levels of eroded natural soil follows a package of alluvial layers clearly to be assigned to the PGW period, partly mixed with collapsed-in materials of the slope. The river appears to have worked a new course in the PGW era for in this period the gradual filling-up of the old bed was completed (Fig. 16). It could be ascertained with the help of the profiles following the ground surface level of the deposit layers that only in the west of the river(-bed or branch) in course of the PGW period an increase in height, caused by human settlement, of more than 1.0 m took place while in this time the height of the eastern area, lying outside, remained nearly unchanged.

The slope at the foot of the ground elevated by the deposits of the PGW people, with its angle of inclination of 25°, was covered by an upto 3.0 m wide conflagration deposit, height ca 15.50–14.25 m, covering the layers of the PGW levels. Upto 5.0 cm strong, it consisted of red to black ashes with mixtures of charcoal, the sandy soil below burnt reddish.

It can be presumed that towards the end of the PGW period, when the river was nearly filled up and bigger erosions of the embankment did not occur anymore, a dense



16 Trench 2 IV/Cc. Northern profile

vegetation grew on this slope which was destroyed by fire. A charcoal sample of the conflagration deposit taken at the place 2 IV 15.95/Cc 2.30 at a height of 14.77m produced a date of 504 cal BC (see CHRONOLOGY).

3. Synopsis

A synopsis of the dates and information obtained through the various trenches yields a general picture which, to a limited extent, elucidates the situation in the beginning of the settlement of the site by the Painted Grey Ware people.

We do not know the reason for a settlement just at this place, but the scenery, which the PGW people found there and which might have contributed to this decision, can be recognised in rough outlines.

The branch of river found in the eastern part of the excavation area crossed the site from NNW to SSE, possibly as part of a meandering river crossing the alluvial plane. The area adjoining towards west rose from northeast (Trench 1) towards southwest uniformly for more than 1.50m. The highest landmark of the natural soil was reached with 15.75m in Trench 4. Towards southeast, i.e. the Trench 2, the ground descended slightly. This increase in height let one expect the centre of the settlement in the vicinity of Trench 4 or still further west or southwest, the settlers preferring certainly to erect their homes on a somewhat higher level in order to protect them against possible inundations.

On account of the limited excavated area no remains of structures whatsoever could be unearthed of this earliest occupation of the mound. However, the post-holes in 3 I/Ca assigned to Level 39 as well as the remains of daub from a latticed wall, found in Trench 4 and ascribed to the late phase of the PGW period, give indications regarding the prevailing method of construction. The yield of finds in Trench 4 and the area 2IV/Be, i.e. in regions situated more central according to the above-mentioned hypothesis, was very paltry. Rather conspicuous, on the contrary, was the occurrence of sherds on the periphery, in the Trenches 1 and 3 as well as in Trench 2. The abundance of sherds and vessels in the ditch of Trench 1 corresponds with the rich finds in the alluvial layers in Trench 3.

It remains unclear whether the ditch system, to which the part exposed in Trench 1 belongs, had a connection to the branch of river running further eastwards or not. Such a connection would however be imaginable and offer an explanation for the deeper erosion of the ditch bottom met with at the eastern side of the exposed part. However, a possible turning of the course of the ditch into the southern direction, parallel to the course of the river branch, cannot be excluded totally.

The rather small dimensions of the double-ditch of Sonkh with its slightly raised middle dam in 3 I/Ca do not allow us to assume a fortification like that of the early historical time with its parapets and ditches of bigger extent. However, it was part of an enclosure of the first Painted Grey Ware settlement anticipating the elements of later defensive works. It served for the protection of the people living at that time most probably still in tents or in huts made of wood and shrubs with daub as well as for the protection of cattle. Perhaps there was on the crown of the embankment a palisade made of wood and shrubs in order to prevent the intrusion into the area of settlement, yet, it remains unclear to what extent the structure would have served as a safeguard against inundations. So far, the profiles showed no traces at all of a flooding or inundations from the northern side.

For the early Painted Grey Ware period the river branch formed the eastern boundary of the settlement, in the north the settled area was bounded by the ditch system of Trench 1. Even in later times, these boundaries seem to have hardly ever been exceeded towards the east and only insignificantly towards the north. Two small trial trenches to the north brought not the slightest indication of a settlement in this area at the time of the Painted Grey Ware people. The natural border formed by the river bed was overpassed for the first time by building structures in the time of Level 35 attributed to the Maurya period.

The general thickness of the PGW levels altogether varied between 1.00m in Trench 1 and over 1.50m in Trench 4. A sequence of levels could not be established with the exception of Trench 1. This is to be assigned partly to the homogeneous soil in the whole of the PGW region and partly to the fact that within the rather spacious area not all parts were densely built upon at one and the same time. In the course of an extensive excavation in the centre of the PGW settlement, i.e. underneath the preserved structures of later levels, different phases of habitation would be found for this early time beyond any doubt.

B. THE TRANSITIONAL PHASE: LEVEL 36

Change of Soil Conditions

The strict separation, ascertained specially in the region of Trench 1, between the soil material of the PGW levels and that of the following levels was confirmed in the other trench areas in course of the excavation. The question arises whether this difference in the soil condition indicates a longer interruption in the sequence of settlement. The following observations may offer an answer.

1. In the area 3 I/Ca yet a ca 20.0cm thick layer of yellowish loamy sand lay over the ground of the last PGW level. Above this clearly marked layer followed a mud wall structure which had been founded partly into the PGW level. The roof structure of this building had been destroyed by fire.
2. In the eroded area of the ditch in 2 IV/Cc followed above the conflagration deposit several muddy dark grey layers of soil, partly with inclusions of sand, which are to be dated into the Post-PGW period on account of the pottery found there. The depth of this package of layers varies between 10.0 and 20.0cm at the slope and 60.0cm in the middle of the ditch. On top of the alluvial layers a mud structure was founded the straw or reed roof of which was likewise destroyed by burning. This conformity as well as the similarity of the find materials allow us to date both the structures in the same settlement phase.
3. In the trench area 2 IV/Be, directly above the last PGW level at the average height of 15.90m, a hard and greyish mud level with some post-holes was conserved at 15.95m. Another level followed at a height of ca 16.20m, showing an oval arrangement of post-holes connected by a groove. The lowermost level with mud wall houses was reached here only in a height of 1.20m above the last PGW level.

A synopsis of these facts obtained in the various trenches gives support to the conclusion that also in the transitional phase between the end of the Painted Grey Ware time and that of the Early Maurya period the mound of Sonkh was populated without a let-up. The change in the soil conditions seems to signalize no important consequences in the succession of the settlement. The question how far this change has to be seen in close relation with the end of the PGW time or has to be taken as a coincidence must remain unanswered.

The settlement in this transitional phase to the mud wall structures of the succeeding levels, henceforth called *Pre-Maurya*, appears to have likewise been concentrated in the south-southwestern area because structures of Level 36, belonging to this time were discovered only in 2 IV/Be and not in the areas lying further north and eastwards, a further correspondence with the structures of the PGW time whose centre is to be assumed in this region likewise.

For the area of Trench 1 followed a phase of building inactivity, an explanation why the change of soil is marked here so clearly and undisturbedly. At the same time, the depression still present in the course of the old river branch in the east was filled up further with eroded material containing the terracotta and pottery fragments of the time.

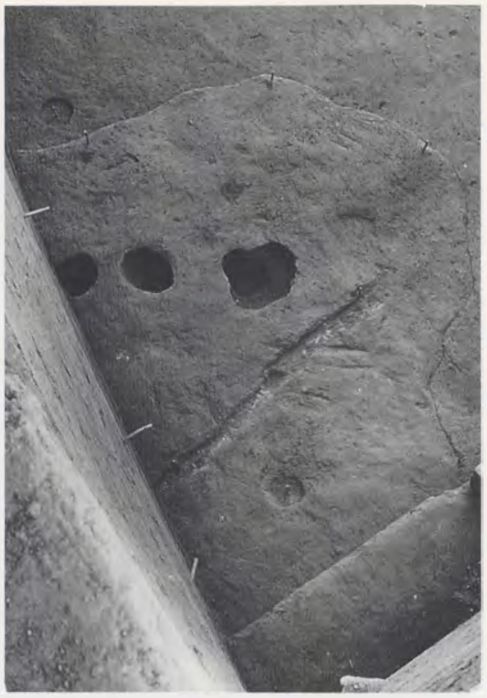
A direct alteration of the building method could not be observed. Similar to the upper PGW levels the structures of this phase are to be imagined as wattle and daub constructions. A ground-plan of such a house was marked in the mud ground of Level 36, Phase 2, as described below. A further indication of the continuance of the cultural tradition, also to be noticed in minor works, e.g. shown in the further manufacture of vessels of the normal Coarse Grey Ware beside a black-slipped variant, were the finds of vessel fragments with a stamped potter's mark. There were samples of this stamping which, although varying in shape (POTTERY II.16), are to be ascribed in their type to those evidenced for Level 37, the uppermost of the PGW levels (POTTERY I.53).

Structures of Level 36

The discovered traces of structures of this transitional period, taken as Level 36, have to be assigned to two different phases.

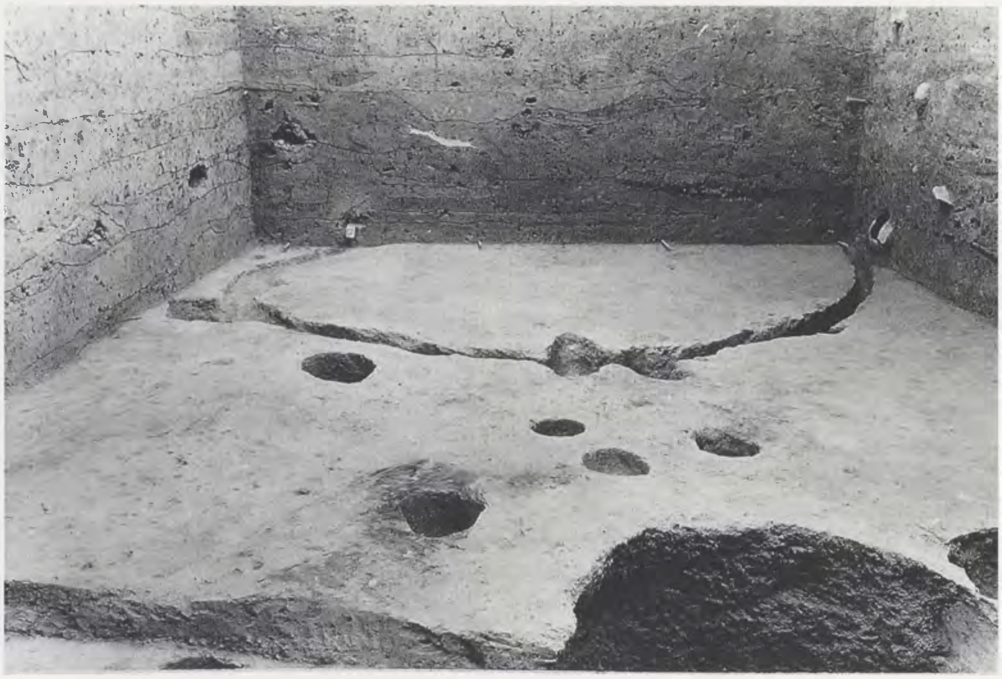
Phase 1 consisted of vestiges of a level of brownish grey mud in 2 IV 2.5–6.5/Be 15.5–19.5, with three post-holes in line. Its depth lay between 30.0 and 35.0 cm, with an average distance of 45.0 cm; its diameter amounted to 25.0 cm on the average (Fig. 17). The mud area sloped slightly from south to north from 16.00 to 15.90 m. A little eastward of the post-holes a narrow shallow gully was exposed containing paltry remains of whitish decomposition. On the mud floor beside the post-holes were found some remnants of brick-like material, probably burnt daub.

Phase 2 is to be identified with a mud level which could be followed across the whole excavated area of 2 IV/Be. Its height ranged between 16.29 and 16.21 m. In the northern part of this area a kind of gully could partly be excavated showing a kind of oval shape with outer dimensions of ca 2.50 by 3.50 m (Fig. 18). The otherwise hard and brownish mud of the ground was interspersed strongly with yellowish sand (PGW ground?) within this oval. The depth of the gully, upto 10.0 cm wide, varied between 5.0 and 12.0 cm. This has to be taken as a depression marking the footing of a vanished hut whose superstructure was of perishable material like wattle-and-daub, the walls slightly inserted into the ground.


17 Mud floor with post-holes, Level 36/1

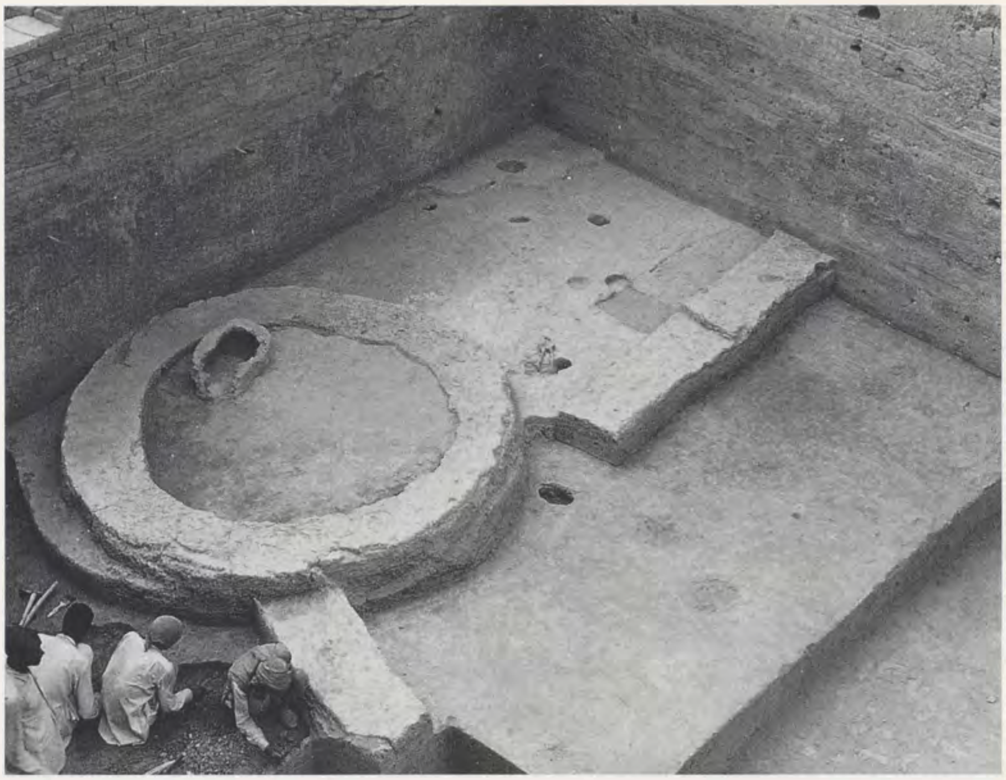
The post-holes of bigger sizes in the southwest of the gully may have been the foundation holes of wooden props or supports. There dimensions not necessarily due to constructional reasons, one might regard them as framing the entrance opening towards southwest. The continuous gully may indicate that the entrance was furnished with a treshold. The smaller post-holes may be understood as indication of a canopy construction in front of the entrance. The strong oval shape of the post-holes prepared in the course of the gully, in one case with a proportion of ca 50.0 by 20.0 cm, catches the eye. The larger diameter here is directed at the centre of the oval. In a second case the inner side was showing a strong angle of slope, possibly an indication for walls inclined strongly inwards.

The post-holes lying outside were all nearly circular, narrowing downwards conically with semicircular bottom. Their depths varies between 10.0 and 15.0 cm. Traces of soot and remains of mud burnt black in the vicinity of a small depression at a distance of ca 1.25 m from the outer edge of the "house" suggest this area as the spot of a fireplace. In a pit 35.0 by 45.0 cm in size and ca 25.0 cm deep situated 1.00 m westward most probably a storage jar was placed.


18 Mud floor with oval gully-like deepening and post-holes

C. THE PERIOD OF THE MUD WALL STRUCTURES

From the beginning of the Pre-Maurya upto the time of the Śuṅga Cultural Phase the buildings of the old Sonkh were made of mud walls. Presumably towards the end of Level 36, for the first time, in this region a bigger settlement developed with people settling down, becoming resident. A development which led to the construction of larger houses, built more solid and durable. Thus in this region of rural character the transition from structures of wattle-and-daub or wood to houses constructed of mud walls took place. This transition stage is still noticeable in the ground-plan of the structures, i.e. in the type of round houses typical of buildings made of perishable materials.



19 Round mud house with post-holes, rotten rope of Level 35, and a fireplace of Level 34

Level 35

1. A fair example of this development is the mud wall house exposed in 3 I 3.5–8.5/Ca 6.5 – 17.5, height 15.40 – 15.80m (Fig. 19). The lower outer diameter of this round house made of a mud wall, ca 50.0–65.0cm thick, varied between 3.50 and 3.65m. The wall, almost perpendicular on the inside, was outwards, as far as to be ascertained by the 40.0cm high socle, tapering upwards.

Within the circular building whose foundation height lies at 15.40m on the average, a mud level was preserved which slopes slightly from west to east from 15.58 to 15.47m. As the socle of the mud wall rises above this floor between 20.0 and 30.0cm and no indication could be found of an opening, it must be presumed that there was a threshold to the door, at least 20.0cm high, which might have served as protection against rainwater oozing in.

The average height of the outer ground-level, identical with the inner floor level, lay at 15.58m. West of the circular building the level was bounded towards north by a ca 65.0cm broad mud wall standing up to about 10.0cm. Presumably it was part of the northern enclosure of a courtyard belonging to the round house, oriented towards south. The socle breaks off rectangularly just 45.0cm before the round wall creating thereby a narrow passageway. Remains of a mud wall were also exposed in the east directly connected with the circular building taking a course towards north-east.

Irregularly scattered all over the region of the preserved clay-floor were found some depressions and post-holes of different size and depth. One of these post-holes in the direct neighbourhood of the passageway, 3 I 7.05/Ca 10.65, deserves special attention. The upper diameter of this hole, narrowing downwards conically, amounted to 17.0cm, its depth ca 25.0cm. At the edge of the connecting flat pit, diameter 35.0cm, there was found a noose-shaped object, ca 40.0cm long and 12.0cm broad, lying directly on the mud floor (Fig. 20). It consisted of sandy-muddy earth of brownish colour, diameter ca 2.0–2.5cm. It is obvious that these are the remains of a rotten rope with which the cattle used to be tied to the stake, it's place marked by the post-hole. The mud floor, therefore, seems to represent the court area of the property. To the north of its enclosure wall no firm floor was to be determined.

Two-third of the ground of the circular building whose inner diameter amounts to 2.50m was covered with a deposit of ashes and conflagration, upto 20.0cm thick. It consisted mostly of blackish-greyish, less reddish ashes mixed with clods of mud. It must be assumed that the roof, made of light wood and covered with grass, was destroyed by fire and its ashes fell into the interior of the house. The clods of mud found there suggest that at least the last "courses" of the wall below the roof construction were composed of a sort of mud-"bricks".

A mud well, discovered at 3 II 3.5–4.4/Ca 17.6–18.3, starting at the height of 15.60m, can be regarded as belonging to this Level 35. With an upper diameter of 0.90m, slightly narrowing downwards, it ended at ca 10.30m in the ground water-level of the sandy ground. Serving as a rubbish pit after being out of use, it was filled up in the upper part mostly with ashes, bones etc. The excavated material of the deeper section yielded, besides profuse sherd materials, a larger number of undamaged vessels which can be assigned to the early occupational phase of the well (POTTERY II.5; 20–26).

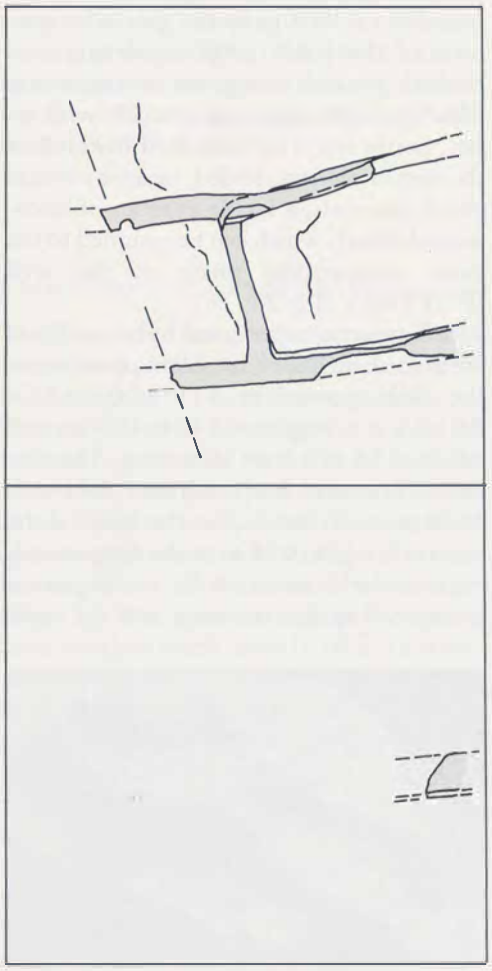
2. Likewise to be assigned to Level 35 are the structures above the filled-up layers of the ditch exposed in 2 IV 12.0–18.0/Cc 2.0–9.5 at a height of 14.34–15.26m and oriented in east-west direction. The distance between both regions measures 45.00m, nevertheless, on the basis of the objects found as well as of the correspondence in the destruction by conflagration mentioned earlier, a dating into the same

20 Detail of fig. 19: the rotten rope

period can be regarded as secure inspite of the difference in height of ca 1.00 m due to the level of the ditch. In contrast to the area 3 I/Ca, no circular type but a part of a surprisingly large, nearly rectangular and probably single-roomed mud wall house was exposed (Fig. 21).

At the western side the outer width amounts to 3.80 m, increasing upto 4.50 m towards the centre. So far as it can be recognized, this is to be assigned, at least partially, to a sagging and bulging of the southern wall caused by the settling alluvial layers of the ditch. The ending in the east remains unclear on account of the limited area of excavation, the inner length of the house must have measured at least 4.50 m.

The walls, varying in thickness between 40.0 and 60.0 cm, consisted of argillaceous grey mud. Differences in the height of the foundations of the partly 70.0 cm high preserved mud walls were due to the condition of the building ground. The river-bed filled up only roughly with alluvial layers offered no even surface, and a levelling of the ground was obviously not regarded as necessary, resulting thus for the foundations in differences in height of more than 25.0 cm in the east-west and ca 60.0 cm in the north-south direction. Later sagging could have contributed only insignificantly because the floor within the house shows only minor differences in height.



21 Mud structures in 2 IV/Cc, Level 35

Yet, the derivation from the vertical line combined with a bulging of the wall upto 70.0 cm was especially strong at the southern wall as it was based entirely on the alluvial layers of the ditch while the northern wall was founded, at least in its eastern part, on the natural soil. To the south of the house, the ground inclined more strongly to the sector formed by the ditch which, still in the time of Level 35, remained a zone of erosion.

The court area belonging to this house was oriented most probably towards north. An enclosing wall, erected at the same time with the mud walls of the house, as extension of the southern wall towards east, formed a part of the boundary of this complex built directly at the foot of the slope, the angle of the embankment amounting to ca 20°–25°.

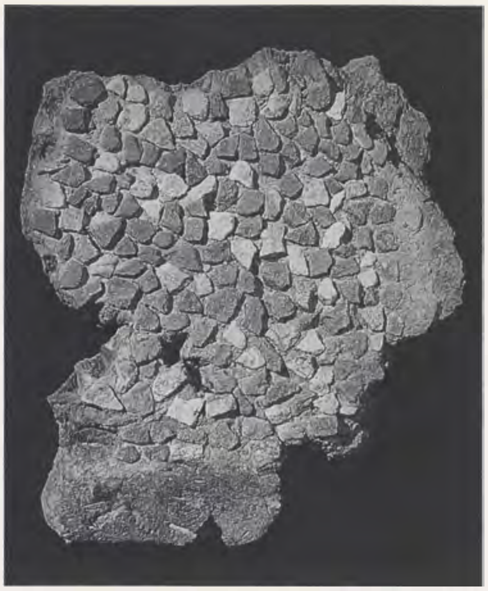
At a later date (Phase 2), yet another mud wall was erected nearly in extension to the northern wall. A clearly marked joint as well as differences in colour and the founding on a higher level speak for a later addition. It remains unexplained whether this room was roofed over or not. An occupational level which would have to be placed considerably higher than that of the adjacent room due to the slope could not be determined.

The floor of the excavated house was covered with an altogether 7.0 cm thick layer of ashes. Directly on the mud floor, burnt black, there was found a layer of red ashes, mixed with burnt-red clay, superimposed by layers of greyish blue ashes, mixed partly with reddish brown ashes; in the western third of the interior a thicker layer of whitish brown rotten material.

On the inner surface of the walls larger spaces of daub made of very hard and clayey mud were found, under which the wall had a peculiar black discoloration. It seemed as if this fine plastering contained an admixture of bright brick-red colour because a slightly red colouring could be ascertained even in those places where there were no traces of burning.

South of the house, at 2 IV 10.8/Cc 5.05 in the height of 14.65 m, was found a fragment of a mosaic (Fig. 22) of coloured pebbles pressed into strongly tempered clay, size 18.5 × 16.3 × 4.8 cm. It remains unclear whether it can be regarded as a fragment of floor covering.

Perhaps likewise to assign to this level in 2 IV/Cc are the remains of a mud wall in 2 IV 3.25–4.50/Cc 8.50–9.50, height 14.62–14.84 m.



22 Fragment of mosaic of coloured pebbles. Level 35

3. In the area 2 IV/Be an occupational level of a medium height of 16.70 m could be allocated to Level 35, some floor remains of which could be conserved in the excavated area.

Level 34

1. A hard clay layer with traces of ashes at the height of ca 15.80 m was located as Level 34 in 3 I 3.5–9.5/Ca 7.5–16.5, bounded at the east by a mud wall ca 55.0 cm wide and narrowing slightly upwards (Fig. 23). The course of the wall standing ca 10.0 cm above the level corresponded almost exactly to the north-south direction. In the ground in parts the outlines of the round house of Level 35 were marking themselves. The horseshoe-shaped fireplace of rather larger dimensions, ca 85.0 × 55.0 cm, was founded on the ash-layer of the round house, likewise marked in the ground northwards of the fireplace. The wall of the hearth was composed of reddish burnt clay, the filling, of ashes mixed with sand. Slightly to the southwest of the fireplace, a larger depression was exposed of the diameter 40.0 cm and filled with ashes.

A mud well located at 3 I 11.0/Ca 16.9 most probably belongs to this level. It has been sunk into the ground from the height of ca 15.85 m and ended at ca 10.30 m in aquiferous layers. The excavation of the well yielded in the lower region a large number of pails and pitchers, besides potsherds, fully preserved slipped into the well at the time of its use (POTTERY II.40; 44–47; 49; 55). The well tapering slightly in the lower part had an upper diameter of 1.20 m, widening on the eastern side ovally to 1.80 m caused by demolitions and erosions.

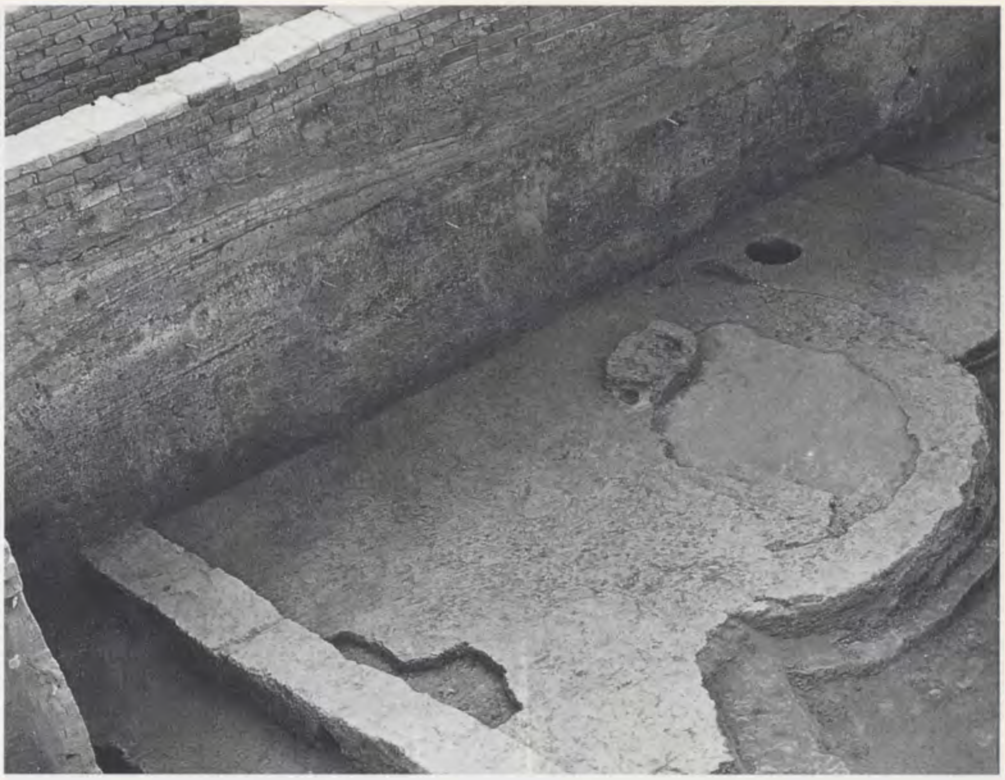
After being out of proper use, the well was used as rubbish pit and filled up with waste material (remains of plants, ashes, sherds, bones etc.). At ca 15.30 m was found a solid intermediate layer, the pit of about 0.55 m depth thus used as a fireplace.

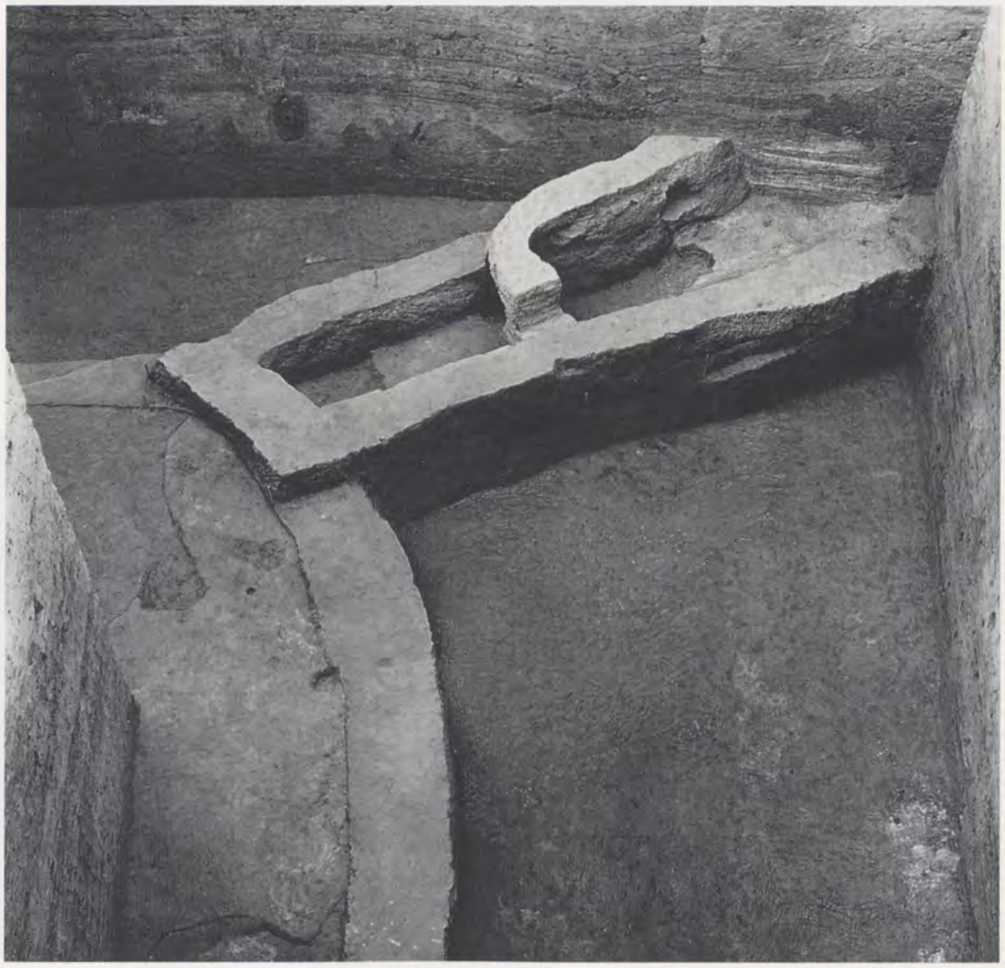
2. In the eastern part of 2 IV/Be was located a mud wall of yellowish-brownish material, 45.0–50.0 cm wide. This wall running in an oval could be followed up in an area of 5.50 by 2.25 m at a height of 16.89–17.28 m. In the inner area, opening towards north-east, was found a layer of yellow sand (PGW material?), height 16.97–17.06 m, in a thickness of 8.0 cm, in which some grooves and post-holes were marked.

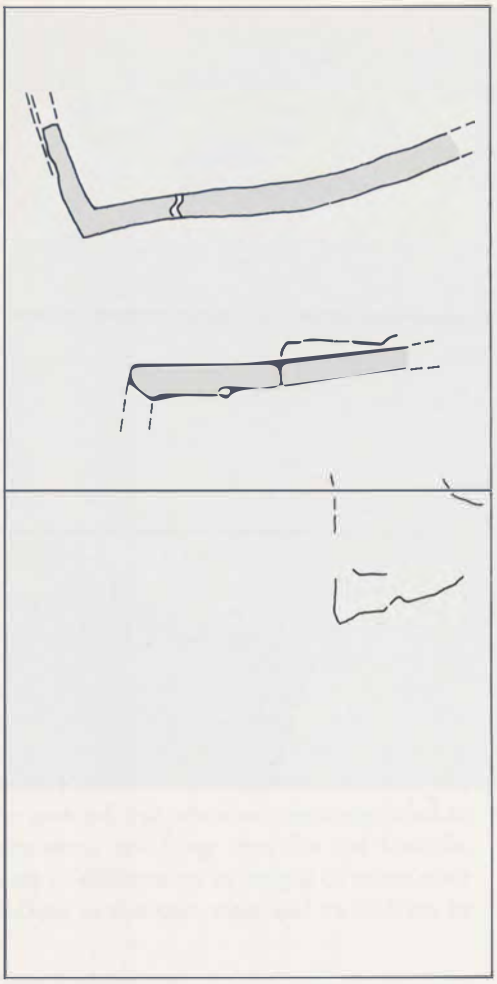
In the southern area, connected with the wall, was found a trough of irregular shape whose walls, made of mud, tapered conically upwards (Fig. 24). Its outer width measured 1.25–1.60 m, the inner width 0.50–0.75 m, the length could be followed upto 4.00 m. The trough was halfway overbuilt by a second trough-like structure, height range of the trough about 17.54–16.99m. The semicircular end of the superstructure ran free over the deeper ground of the trough. Especially this part of the trough, formed by the superstructure, was filled with numerous layers of decomposed residues alternating with loose earth. The bottom of the trough sloped slightly from east to west following the gradient of the ground. In the northeastern corner were found, moreover, the remains of a mud layer.

3. Built upon the outer walls of the structure of Level 35 in the area 2 IV/Cc were found two nearly parallel mud walls of a thickness between 50.0 and 60.0 cm (Fig. 25). The walls, running more or less in eastwest direction, are probably belonging to different court areas. The wall-corners registered in the western part of the field indicate that the court areas have been stretching northwards and southwards respectively. While the walls of Level 35, used as foundations, enclosed a large inner room, it seems as if here the walls enclose a ca 3.0 m wide path of approach from the lower outer area of the swampy ground to the high-placed centre of the habitation.

The differences in height regarding the foundations, 15.30–15.57 m of the northern and 14.70–15.40 m of the southern wall, still indicate, similar to the situation in Level 35, the strong sloping of the level at this period. The western enclosure walls,


23 Mud floor with mud wall and fireplace. Level 34


24 Trough made of stamped mud. Level 34



25 Mud walls in 2 IV/Cc. Level 34

set up higher and existing only in parts now, were founded on the alluvial layers of the slope of the former big ditch, still relatively steep. Small remains of a flooring could be registered north of the southern wall, height 14.84–14.92m. In this region were found some spots of daub on the outer side of the wall. Likewise belonging to this Level 34, probably to a somewhat later phase, is a level of hard mud south of the southern mud wall, height 15.30–15.47m.

Level 33

1. Level 33 could be exposed in 3 I 5.0–10.0/Ca 13.0–15.5 as a hard clay floor with blackish-brown and reddish-grey traces of ashes at an average height of 16.15m. As belonging to this level have to be regarded three longish fireplaces at 3 II 4.0–8.5/Ca 18.0–19.5, height 15.88–16.29m (Fig. 26). The northern one, ca 60.0 × 25.0cm, had a shallow ashpit of a diameter of 60.0cm. The openings of the other two fireplaces lay within the section wall.

2. In the region 2 IV/Be Level 33 is represented by remains of a hard clay-level in the height of 17.30–17.40m.

26 Fireplaces in Level 33

3. In the 9.00 by 19.00m area of 2 IV/Cc the Level 33 is to be identified with three fragments of mud walls. Two of them, situated at 2 IV 5.5–9.0/Cc 12.5–16.0, founded at the height of ca 15.15m and standing upto 15.50m, are remains of the southwest and northeast corner respectively of two houses oriented SW to NE. The structures, consisting of ca 50.0cm wide mud walls, are laid out parallel to each other, separated by a passageway of 1.50m width.

In the northeastern part of the field, at 2 IV 15.80–18.25/Cc 10.75–14.25, height 15.40–16.20m, a straight piece of mud wall is running southwest-northeast, connected with a small spot of hard clay-floor towards south at 15.87m. The height levels of the northern and southern structures show that the differences in height are still prevailing.

Level 32

1. As structures of Level 32 located in 3 I 3.5–10.5/Ca 6.5–17.5 are to be regarded two mud walls meeting nearly rectangularly, height 16.28–17.00m (Fig. 27). The crown of the western wall presented several regular post-holes (?) as well as irregular depressions, the southern outer part demolished by a pit deepened in from a later level and reaching down to 15.82m. The area enclosed by the two mud walls, opening towards NE, showed two different phases of habitation: a hard clay level at the height of 16.41–16.43m and, second, a level of clay sloping slightly towards north, interspersed with sherds, with spots of whitish rotten material and single smaller spots of ashes, average height 16.63m. To this height belongs a small clay level outside the western wall.

In the southwest corner was deposited a heap of rubbish with vessels, sherds, remains of bones etc.; at the end of the western wall a rubbish dump with lumps of clay similar to clay "bricks"

A deep gully embedded in the hard clay ground at 3 I 11.0–13.5/Ca 14.0–15.0, height 16.77–16.79m, is also to be assigned to this level. Running in the north-south direction, it was filled with charcoal and light grey coarse ashes.

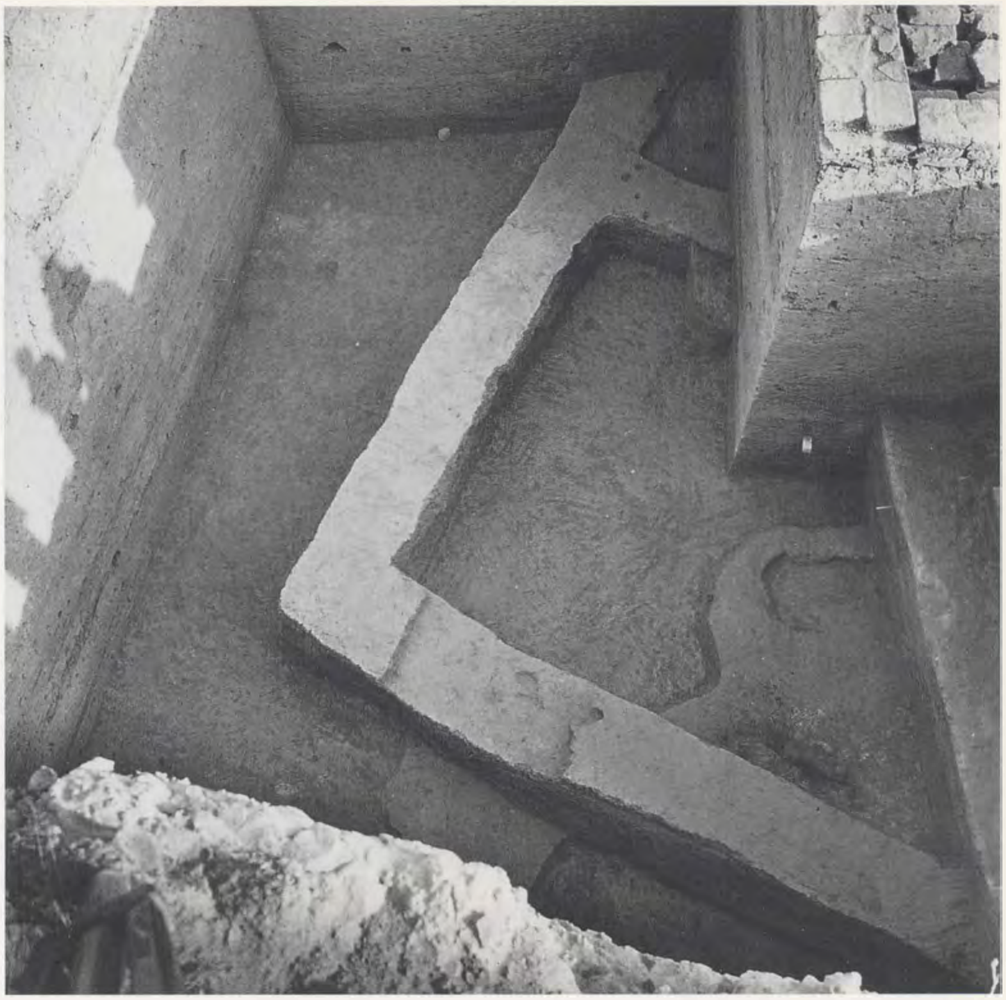
2. As belonging to Level 32 must be regarded a settlement complex at 2 IV/Be, height 17.50–18.10m (lower edge foundation – upper edge wall), which was built of mud, upto 80.0cm wide. Exposed was

27 Mud wall structure. Level 32

the eastern corner of a rectangular building (Fig. 28). The outer walls of dark grey clayey mud running to one another in NW-SE/SW-NE direction surrounded an inner region subdivided by another wall. In the southern inner room, ca 3.10 m wide, excavated in a length of ca 4.00 m, a floor could be exposed at the height of 17.71–17.81 m. Inserted into the floor was a fireplace, size 50.0 × 80.0 cm, the edges reddened by burning. It was filled with whitish grey ashes.

In the room adjoining north, of which just a small part of the southwest corner has been exposed, the height of the floor could be ascertained at 17.79 m.

3. In the area 2 IV/Cc Level 32 was not safely traceable. A number of patches of hard mud level could be exposed, in the north at a height of 16.20–16.40 m, in the southern region at 15.60–16.00 m. As there were no larger structures found along with them, these floor remains could not be assigned to Level 32 with certainty. But a number of terracotta fragments (HUM.TERR. nos. 39; 41) and other finds, among them the two earliest uninscribed copper coins from Sonkh (COINS, no. 4; 5) support this assignment.



28 Rectangular mud structure in IV/Be. Level 32

Level 31

1. Remains of structures and habitational areas of Level 31 were found in 3 I 3.0–12.0/Ca 14.5–19.5 in a height of 16.80–16.95m. Besides the remains of hard clay levels, partly covered with sherds, partly blackened by burning, with shallow gully-like depressions, a wall-corner of lumps of mud-bricks has to be pointed out here specially (Fig. 29). The wall-remains, height 16.67–16.88 m, about 2.00 m long and opening towards NW, consist of lumps of mud of different sizes but rather uniform thickness, ca 5.5cm. However, it cannot be presumed that they have been prefabricated and dried up in advance but appear to have been set more likely in wet condition.

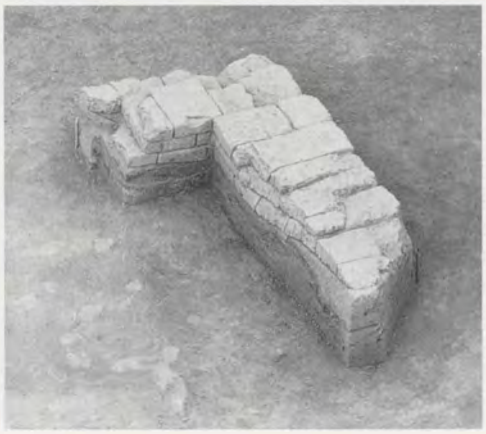
2. In the area 2 IV/Be the Level 31 is represented by a mud wall construction which is set up directly on the structures of Level 32 (Fig. 30). In contrast to the clayey dark grey material of the preceding level, the walls of this construction consisted of yellowish-brownish, slightly sandy clay. The height of the lower edge of the foundation conforms with that of the crown of the wall of Level 32. The upper edges of the preserved walls of Level 31 range between 18.36 and 18.52 m.

The wall running SW-NE was extended in this time towards south, bordering a connecting court area. As no older wall could be used as foundation for this court wall, connected with a joint, a compensating layer of hard, dark grey clayey mud, about 15.0 cm thick, was laid at first to equalize the difference in the height. On it, the court wall was erected corresponding in its material to the walls of the house.

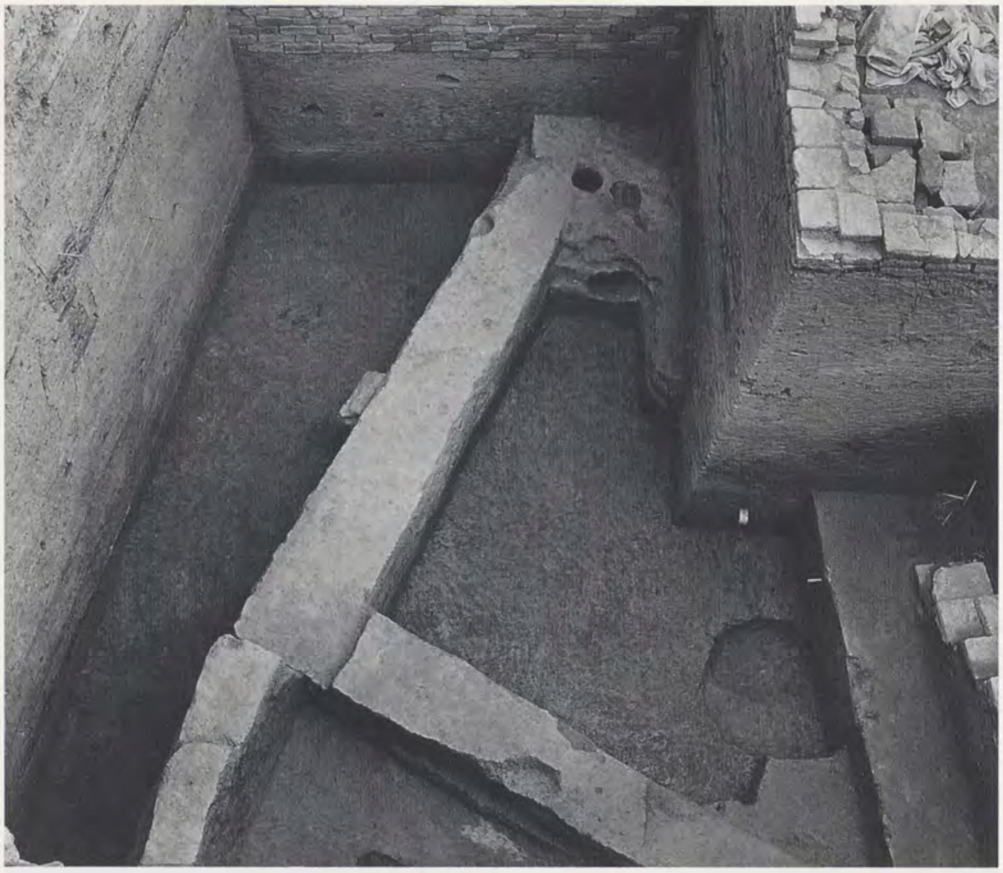
West of the outer wall was located a mud level with greyish white remains of ashes and sherds, height 18.08–18.30, its level corresponding to that of the southern court room, 18.09–18.18 m. Before the western wall lay just one rectangular mud-brick, reddened by burning, the remains of a fireplace probably.

Inside the building two levels of habitation could be ascertained: 1. Height level 17.92–17.97 m, hard mud with rotted remains of plants and ashes; 2. hard mud, 18.10 m in the average. Remains of a mud-plaster of dark grey clayey material were found on the inner side of the southwestern corner of the room.

Of special interest was the furnace located in the northern corner of the room. The wall, ca 50.0 cm wide in the phase of Level 32, had been broadened to ca 1.00 m (Fig. 31). An oval opening, situated on the floor-level, was connected by a ca 60.0 cm long horizontal conduit with a round "chimney", diameter 25.0 cm, which, integrated into the mud wall, served as flue. A large quantity of ashes, mostly grey but also partly reddish, was found in and by the fire-opening. As far as known this is up to now the only documented occurrence of a



29 Mud-brick structure. Level 31



30 Mud wall structure in 2 IV/Be. Level 31

flue integrated into a mud wall structure of this period.

In 2 IV/Cc the Level 31 can presumably be identified with patches of hard mud level at the height of 16.16–16.39 m in the southern area and with two fragments of an obviously very long mud wall in 2 IV 11.50–17.75/Cc 13.00–19.25 and a smaller wall fragment in the north-western corner. The preserved parts of the wall running from SW towards NE are founded at 16.02–16.21 m, standing up to 16.32 m. The length of the fragments is 2.75 m and 4.80 m respectively, the width 50.0–55.0 cm. Judging from a patch of floor preserved along the longer fragment, the inner area enclosed by the wall was lying southeast of it. The not preserved southwest corner of the structure lay presumably at the point 2 IV 11.25/Cc 12.30.

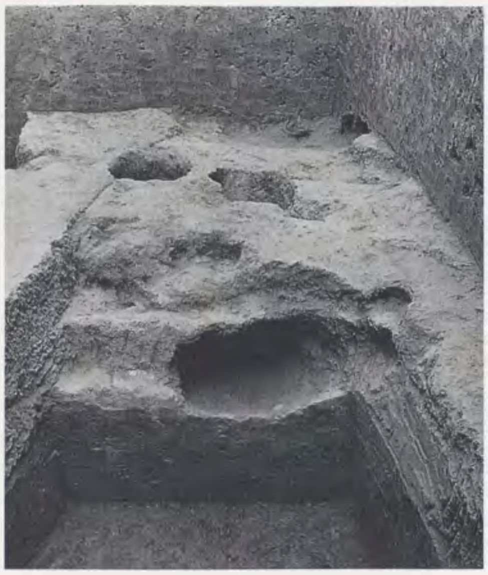
Level 30

1. This habitation level has been exposed in 3 I-II 3.0–11.0/Ca 8.0–18.0 in two hard mud levels with sherds, brick-rubble from fireplaces as well as small pieces of baked clay and traces of ashes. At the western edge of the upper habitational phase, height 17.18–17.25 m, lay whitish layers of decomposition.

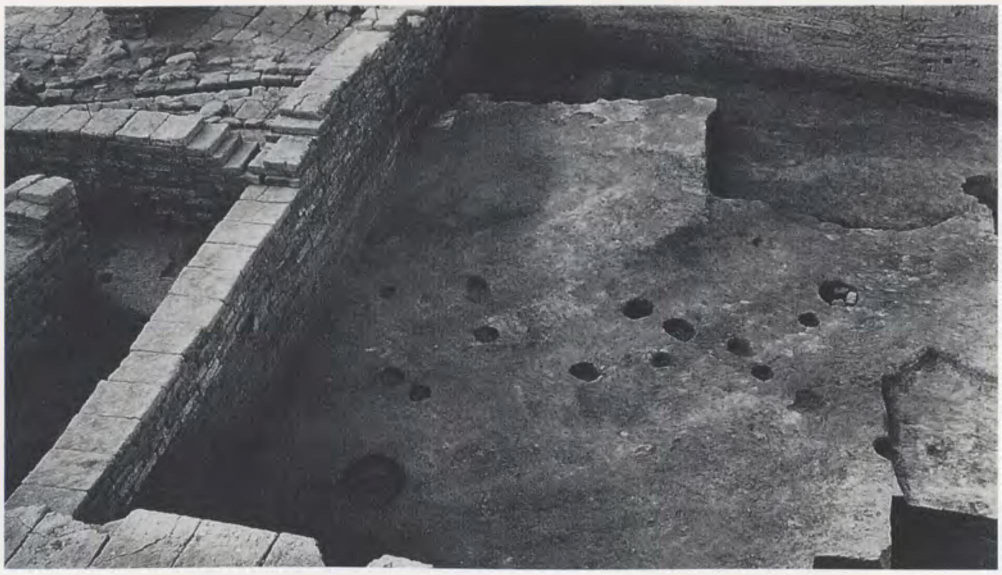
The middle part of the lower, first habitational phase showed a slightly curved stripe of post-holes nearly in north-south direction of different diameters and depths (Fig. 32). In a pit of about 40.0 cm in diameter, exposed at the northern end of this section, were found three bigger pieces of baked bricks, the lowermost appearance of baked bricks in Sonkh at all. In the southern profile a baked brick well-stone of the size 42.0 × 30.0–20.0 × 6.5 cm was found and near to it, the remains of another one, at the height of 17.26 m.

2. In the region 2 IV/Be the northern corner of a building or of a court enclosure belonging to Level 30 could be exposed (Fig. 33). The westside of this building was erected directly on the court wall of Level 31, not to be separated from that of the older level with regard to the yellowish mud material. The axis of the superstructure is however turned more towards NS and its walls are considerably narrower than those of the older structure, ca 40.0–50.0 cm. The north wall, slightly inclined in the upper part towards north, consisted of light grey, more clayey mud in contrast with the west wall. It was placed subsequently against the westwall, the different materials marking themselves clearly at the joint.

The west wall projecting beyond the corner of the structure breaks off at the



31 Detail of furnace in fig. 30



32 Mud floor with post-holes, 3 I/Ca, Level 30

33 Corner of a mud wall building in 2 IV/Be, Level 30

very place where in Level 31 the court wall was placed with a joint to the former building. It remains unclear how far a probable wall followed that of the older level.

In the enclosed area the height of the mud-levels covered with traces of ashes lay at 18.45–18.50 m; the outer area, clay ground with ashes and sherds, sloped towards north from 18.71 to 18.41 m.

3. In 2 IV/Cc the remains of Level 30 are restricted to a level of hard mud at the height of 16.46–16.54 m.

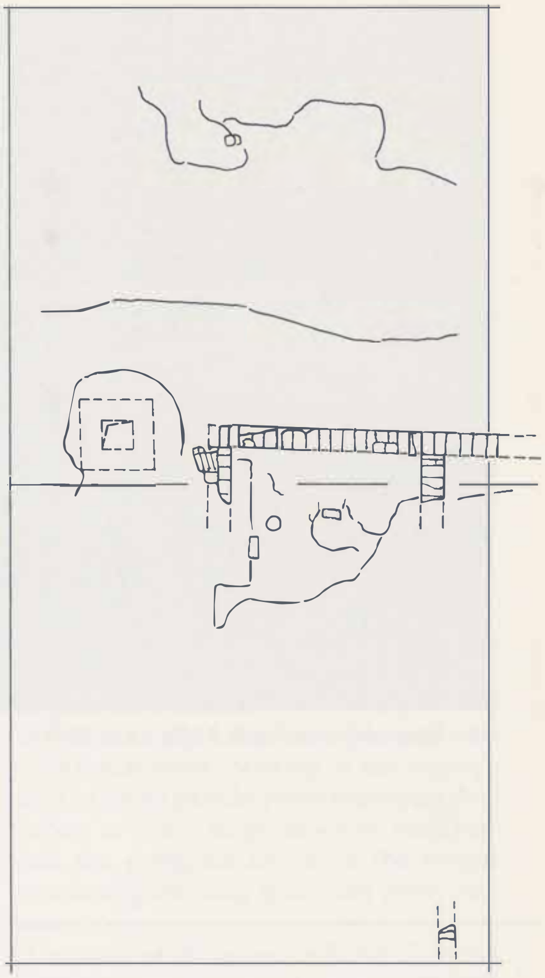
D. THE PHASE OF THE MUD-BRICK CONSTRUCTION

If in the preceding Levels the structures were predominantly built in compressed mud, the situation changes abruptly with Level 29 in the whole of the excavation site.

Reaching the ground above Level 30 there were found in all the areas in which structures of the Levels 29 and 28 came to light remains of settlements, farms etc. which had been constructed out of prefabricated mud-bricks. It is true that already in deeper levels smaller parts of structures had been found which were not executed homogeneously in stamped mud, though. But in such cases they were mostly parts of walls in which the mud was put in some brick-like shape (cp. Level 31). However, uniform sizes as in Levels 29 and 28, waiting to be discussed now, were out of question. Single finds of baked brick fragments or fired bricks of special size (well-stones and others) allow the conclusion that already at the beginning of Level 29 fired bricks were used for special constructions whereas the majority of the houses was constructed of mud-bricks now, probably on economic grounds.

Significant is the fact that the structures of the Levels 29–28, erected in mud-bricks, are not only of partly identical layout but that they anticipated the structures of single buildings as well as the general alignment of the settlement of the Level 27.

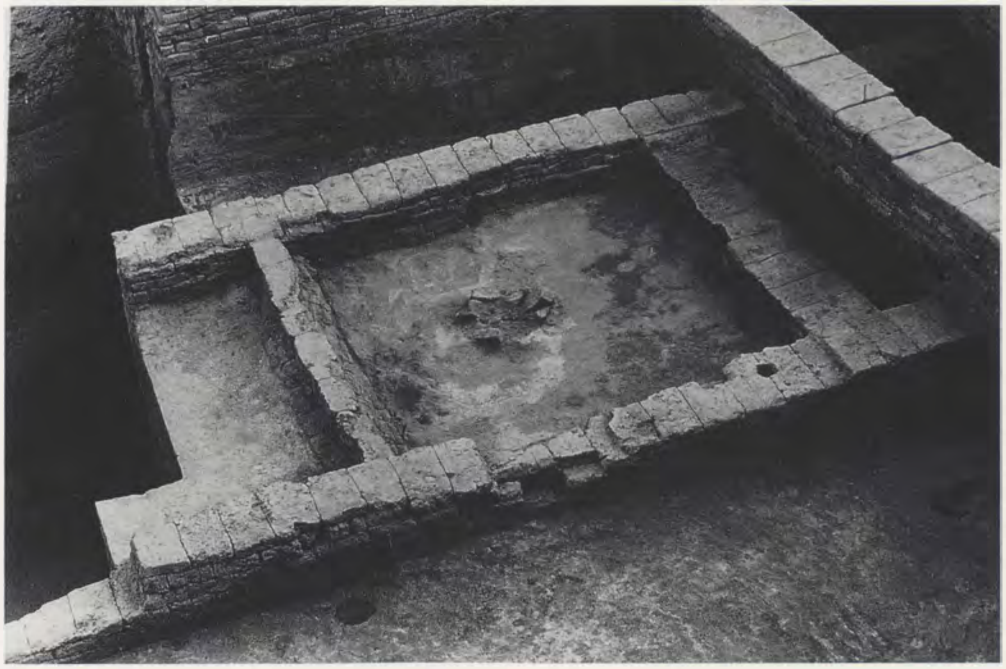
The time of the mud-brick constructions in the Sonkh mound is the formative phase of the early "urban" settlement. If the structures of earlier levels did not indicate any primary principles of town-planning this changed now with the time of Level 29. Surprisingly, this coincides with a turning point of the political and cultural history in this part of India because the Levels 29 and 28 are contemporary with the beginning of the Mitra Dynasty of Mathura.



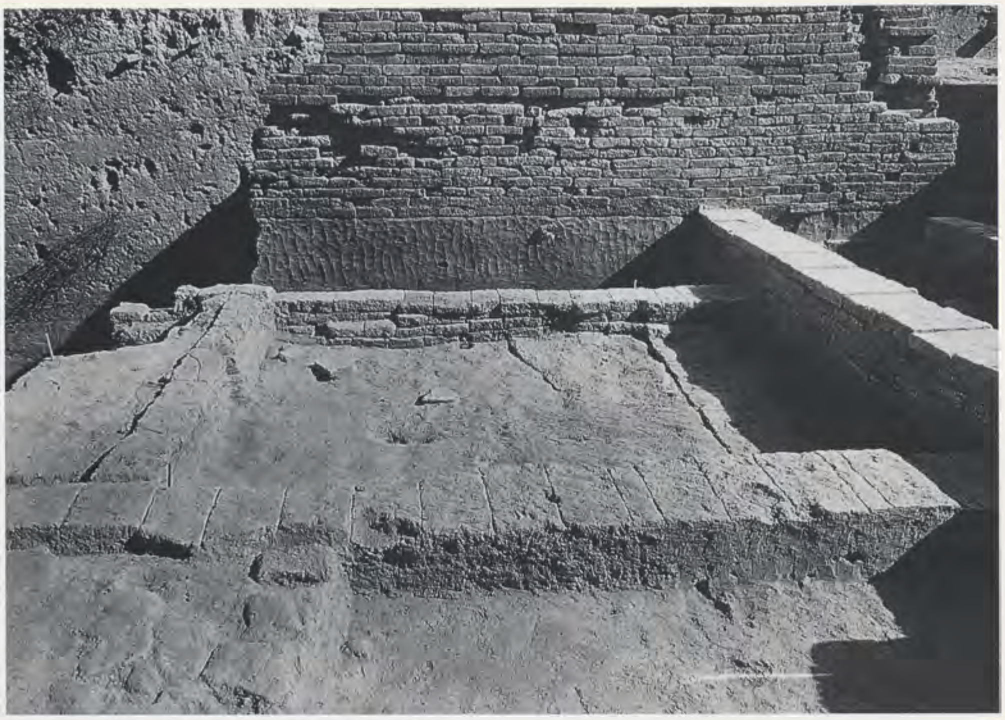
35 Structures of Level 29 in 2 IV/Cc

Level 29

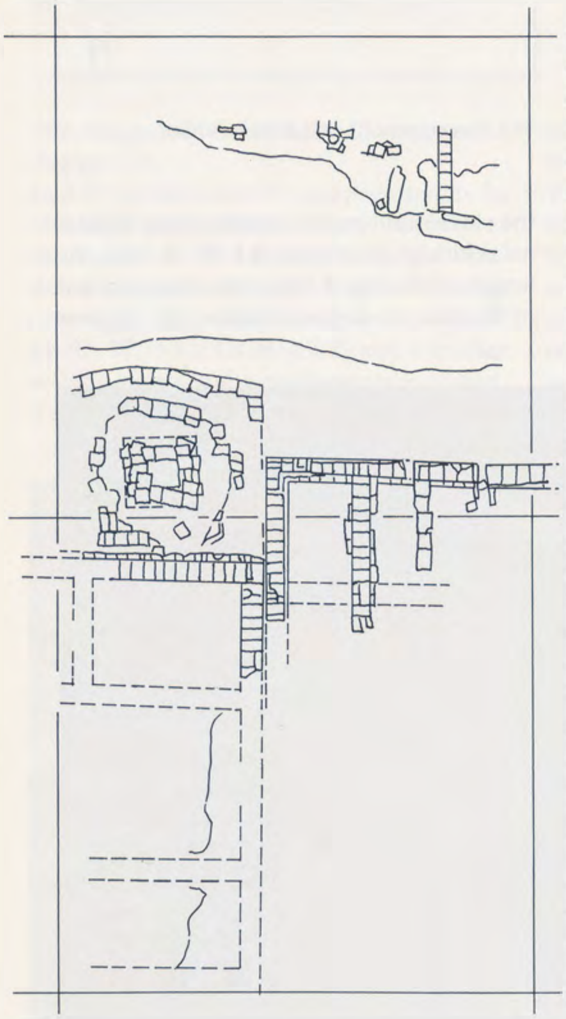
1. Of the structures of Level 29 was preserved in 3 I 3.5–10.2/Ca 6.5–17.0 a row of three rooms in the north-south direction (Fig. 34). The southern room could be recorded only to a small extent, the northern room was for the most part demolished by the moat dug in the time of Level 4 so that the extension towards north is lost. External width of the rooms is 3.00–3.15 m, the length of the row 5.75 m, the deepest point of foundation lay at 17.26 m, the highest



34 Remains of a house built in mud-bricks, 3 I/Ca, Level 29



36 Mud-brick structure in 3 I/Ca, Level 28



37 Structures of Level 28 in 2 IV/Cc

point of the walls at 17.80 m. The masonry consisted mainly of mud-bricks of a medium size of 43.0 × 23.0 × 8.0 cm.

The southern room proved to be the kitchen, the fireplace with mud wallings full of ashes was found directly between the room wall and the profile of the trench. The middle room, inner dimensions ca 2.20 × 2.20 m, was used as a storeroom. Evidences of this were the baked brick fragments arranged in a circle of ca 50.0 cm diameter, serving obviously as support for a big storage jar. The ground showed in some places a mortar-like layer of brick-powder on mud as in the outer room. The middle room opened towards the west by a ca 70.0 cm wide door-opening, the treshold strongly worn down, on a court area in a height of 17.52–17.64 m sloping slightly towards north. The surface of the court consisted of mud with spots of mortar of brick-powder, a few sherds and smaller spots of ashes. The height level of the three rooms ranged between 17.62 m in the south and 17.39 m in the north, following the terrain.

2. In the region 2 IV/Be a hard mud level of the height of 19.05–19.13 m is to be assigned to the Level 29. The floor of partly black, partly red fired mud was covered with black and reddish-white ashes and sherds of a large vessel broken into pieces. A large and a small pit from higher levels were cutting through the floor.

The axis of the mud-brick wall, height 19.08–19.57 m, running in the WE direction corresponded in its course nearly to that of the masonry of 3 I/Ca and is comparable also in the size of the bricks to that of the row of rooms exposed there.

3. The floor of Level 29 in the area 2 IV/Cc was divided in a northern and a southern part (Fig. 35). The northern patch has been exposed at a height of 16.65–16.86 m, the southern part of the floor extended at an average height of 16.95 m. Also preserved were mud-brick walls of the north-west corner of a house forming the remains of two rooms. The structure consisted of a 5.75 m long northern wall projecting from the eastern profile in nearly east-west direction at 2 IV 10.50–11.00, ending in 2 IV 10.75–11.25 where scanty remains of the western outer wall were joining rectangularly. A further fragment of a wall met the long northern one at 2 IV 10.60/Cc 8.75–9.25 thus forming a western room measuring 4.00 m on its preserved northern side and indicating another room to the east of which only the north-west corner remained. The walls were founded at a sloping height of 16.63–16.82 m, standing up to 17.02 m. The bricks measured 43.0 × 23.0 × 8.0 cm. The whole structure resembled the one in 3 I/Ca.

To the west of the house a brick-built well of Level 28 was cutting the ground.

Level 28

1. The structures of Level 28, exposed in 3 I 2.0–10.0/Ca 10.0–17.0, closely followed in direction and layout those of the rooms of Level 29. The walls of the older house were used as foundation, however, between the mud-brick courses of the two levels a thin mud layer could be noticed. Slight differences in the measurement of the structures were conditioned by the different sizes of the mud-bricks used: for the western wall mainly such of 45.0 × 23.0 × 6.0 cm, for the eastern one shorter but otherwise identical bricks of 35.0 × 23.0 × 6.0 cm (Fig. 36).

The external width of the rooms was about 3.00 m. A hard mud-floor with whitish remains of rotten material was found in the outer room. To the west was exposed a court ground with the remains of a mud-brick-flooring and parts of fired bricks at a height of 17.95–18.00 m. As with the comparable structure in Level 29 the extension towards north is lost due to the large moat dug in the time of Level 4.

The remains of the mud-brick house in the area 2 V 18.5–3 I 3.0/Cb 4.5–9.5, outer dimensions ca 3.05 m, proved to be oriented parallel to the above structure. The walls of the construction in the north, for the most part demolished by the just mentioned moat of Level 4, were of unusual thickness, 60.0 cm on an average, and were built of mud-bricks of very different sizes. At the south-east corner were added two short remains of walls. The wall in extension to the southern wall consisted of mud-bricks of the size 42.0 × 23.0 × 6.0 cm.

2. In the area 2 IV/Be was found a mud-brick wall of Level 28, made of quite differing sizes of bricks, width ca 40.0 cm, height at 19.20–19.34 m, in connection with a level of yellow mud, 19.20–19.29 m. The axis of the wall ran parallel to those of the structures of this level recorded above. In the north-eastern corner a pit was sunk about 45.0 cm into the soil, full of ashes and sherds, diameter ca 1.10 m.

3. Level 28, in the area 2 IV 6.00–18.50/Cc 0.50–10.50, is to be regarded as a kind of direct scheme for the later Level 27. The ca 7.00 m wide access road from the east was now clearly marked, height level between 17.12 and 17.00 m, the middle of the road eroded by the flow of water. On this road, one of the two Gomitra copper coins was found (COINS, no. 55).

Also the southern border of the main road was now completely developed, consisting of the remains of two large buildings (Fig. 37). The eastern structure, built in mud-bricks, seems to have formed the northern section of a larger block, unfortunately destroyed by the moat of Level 4. A large gully, covered with burnt bricks, drained unto the street level.

The western structure in burnt bricks, set back to the south about 3.20 m, in the earlier phase only partly preserved, could be reconstructed as the eastern row of rooms of a larger block extending into the unexcavated area. The later phase showed remains of, at least, three rooms, extending to about 8.50 m in south-north direction, height of the structures unearthed between 17.00 and 17.80 m.

The most astonishing feature of Level 28 was, however, a large rectangular, nearly square public well situated in the corner formed by the two blocks opening to the north, to the road, erected on a kind of platform, about 4.00 by 4.00 m, enclosed by a partly stepped brick socle. Height of the platform and the partly preserved brick flooring at about 17.60 m on an average.

The well, upper level at about 17.80 m, was built in burnt bricks of the size 40.0–41.0 × 26.5–27.0 × 7.0 cm, inside dimensions ca 0.70 × 0.65 m. The groundwater level was reached at a height of 10.65 m (02/1974), the lower portions of the wall still reaching down, below 10.15 m. In a later phase, the upper part of the well shaft was repaired or heightened. Remains of a small mud-brick wall, set against the northern wall of the adjoining block may indicate the construction of a lean-to shelter as a protection of the well.

E. THE BEGINNING OF THE BAKED BRICK CONSTRUCTION IN THE LEVELS OF THE MITRA PERIOD

With Level 27 we enter the phase of baked brick constructions in the mound of Sonkh. Although mud-bricks were still in use, the majority of buildings were now erected in baked bricks. Mud-bricks were reserved for minor structures and perhaps for houses of the less wealthy. From the viewpoint of town planning the Levels 27 to 25, including may be the baked brick parts of Level 28 in 2 IV/Cc, are forming one homogeneous phase, not only based on corresponding architectural features but also proven by the related finds.

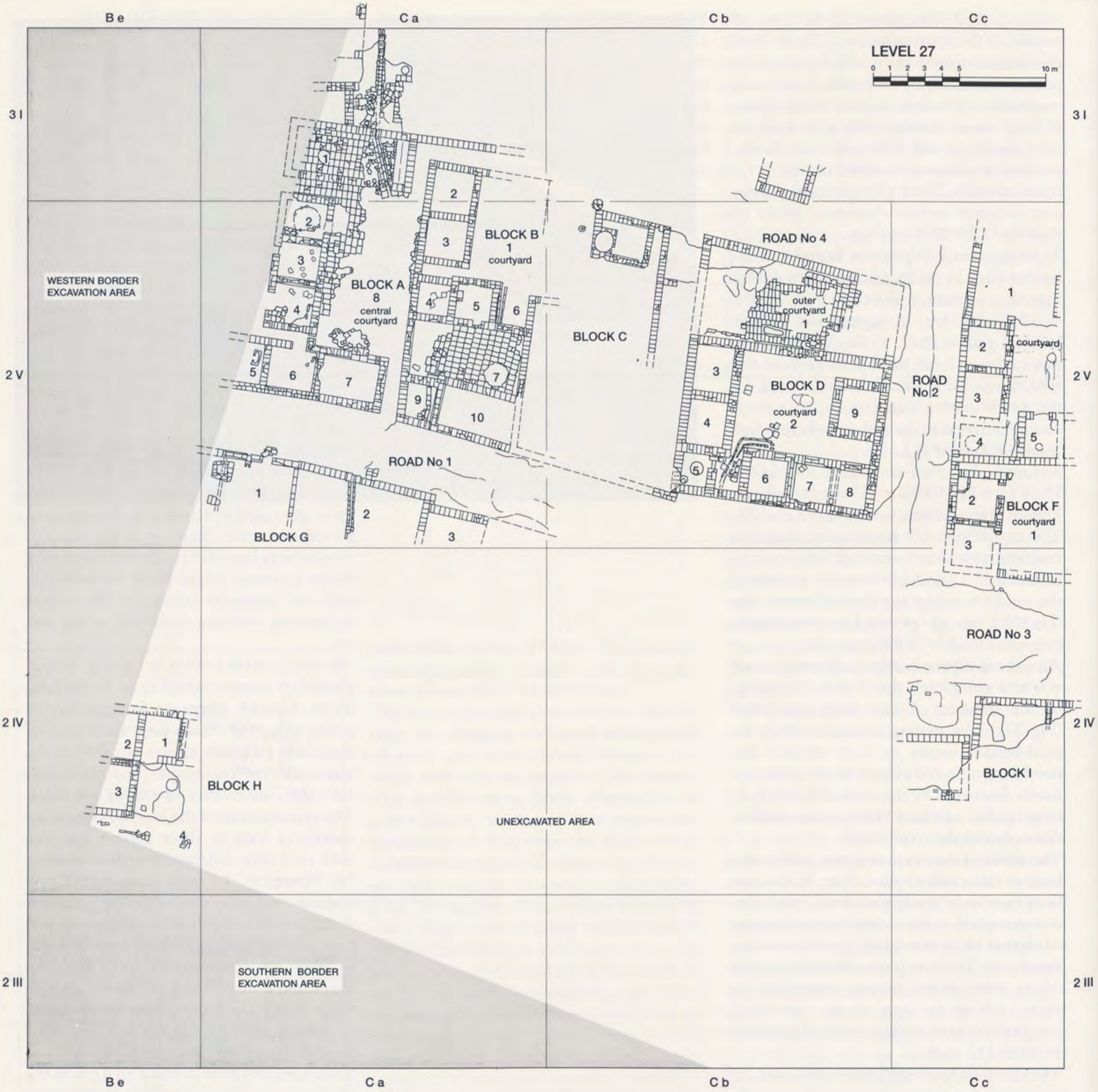
Level 27

The Level 27 is not only the oldest horizon built mainly of baked bricks but, at the same time, a model of well-contrived and up to the smallest detail well-planned constructional units. Striking is the conception of broad parallel roads providing easy access to every single block of buildings and the congenial layout of the houses combining dwelling space and utility sector.

The outfit of the houses in Level 27 shows a comfort never attained again in the later levels of Sonkh. There are, for instance, the public as well as private ring-wells made of terracotta elements always situated in the south-west of the houses, indicating hereby the continuance of traditional rules. The arrangement of the houses, consisting mostly of two or three rooms, covered with roof-tiles, followed also distinct rules but offered at the same time always new and convincing solutions. On the one hand it was possible to group several houses one after the other, parallel to the road, in order to attain a continuous change of dwelling space and court (Block B), or to arrange them along the sides of an inner court, therewith anticipating the coherent constructional unit of later times (Block D).

Structures of Level 27 came to light in the extensively excavated area in 2 V/3 I-Ca/Cc as well as in the plots 2 IV/Be and 2 IV/Cc. The correspondance in the layout with the remaining parts of Level 28 in 2 IV/Cc leads to the conclusion that Level 27 in part perhaps continued structures of Level 28, but in its improved technology and its development created a model of settlement which represents an architectural and social peak.

The floor-level of the occupied area of Level 27 slopes north from 2 IV/Be towards 3 I/Ca from 19.60 m down to


LEVEL 27
0 1 2 3 4 5 10 m
Be
Ca
Cb
Cc
3 I
2 V
2 IV
2 III
WESTERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
SOUTHERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
UNEXCAVATED AREA
BLOCK A
8
central courtyard
BLOCK B
1
courtyard
BLOCK C
BLOCK D
courtyard
2
outer courtyard
1
BLOCK F
courtyard
1
BLOCK G
BLOCK H
BLOCK I
ROAD No 1
ROAD No 2
ROAD No 3
ROAD No 4
courtyard

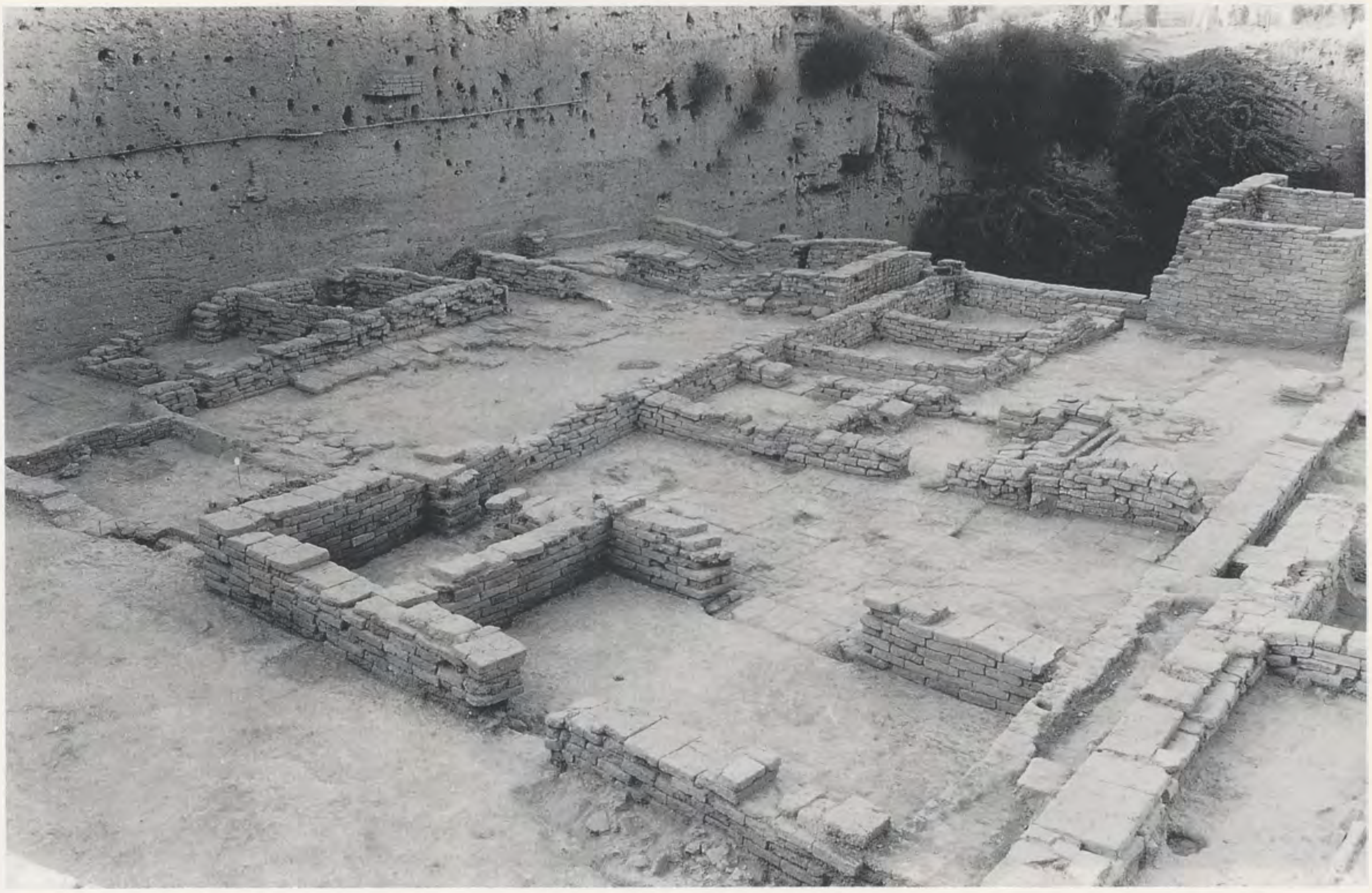
18.00 m, and towards 2 IV/Cc in the east to 17.50 m. The walls unearthed in this region were rising partly to a height of 0.50 m above the floor level.

The alignment of the housing area orientates itself by the main road no. 1 running approximately in west-east direction. This 3.50 m wide road slopes from 18.30 m in the west to 17.57 m in the region 2 V/Ca-Cc and is crossed in Cc by the again 3.50 m wide road no. 2.

The west-east road no. 1 continues in 2 IV/Cc widening now to 7.00 m, thus indicating that this stretch most probably was part of the approach road from the east, as recognizable already in the construction of Level 28. The public well of Level 28 in 2 IV/Cc, perhaps still in use in the first time of Level 27, sufficiently adds to the assumption that this area was some sort of a public meeting place.

Whether or to what extent the open space around the Apsidal Temple no. 1 was already existing or whether one has to expect here a crossing of roads could not be ascertained.

In the excavated area of Level 27 altogether nine residential blocks have been located. North of road no. 1 are situated Blocks A–D occupying a depth of ca 15.00 m. They are bounded in the north by road no. 4. South of the road no. 1 remains of mud-brick walls have been found, per-



38 Level 27: Blocks A and B from south-east

haps of a Block G. To the east of road no. 2 follow the Blocks E and F while to the south of the road in 2 IV/Cc remains of the Block H came to light. An indication of a ninth Block I is given in scanty remnants of structures in 2 IV/Be.

Block A

As far as excavated the Block A consisted of seven rooms arranged along a rectangular inner court extending 5.0 × 9.5 m south-north. The access to the block leads from road 1 through a narrow, 0.8–1.0 m wide lane in to the court. The complex of rooms seems to have had connection towards west where the excavation area ends. In the north-east corner opens another path of access around the corner of Block B, perhaps meeting road no. 4 (Fig. 38).

The most remarkable part of Block A is the hall in the north measuring 2.50 × 6.50 m in the clear. It opens towards the south and is furnished with a carefully laid baked brick flooring. The floor consisted of baked bricks of the size 43.0 × 30.0 × 7.0 cm and 42.0 × 31.0 × 7.5 cm, laid in mortar made of brick fines. To the right and left of a brick pillar there is an opening each 1.90 m wide leading to the inner court. On the right side of the hall was found a socle of hard clay, obviously the remains of a former bench. The extensive paved area of the court necessitated the laying out of a drainage channel. Most probably the channel was open in the courtyard; in the hall itself, however, which it crossed slightly diagonally, it was ingeniously embedded in the baked brick pavement and covered with bricks. It drained towards the north through a breach in the northern wall of the hall. Next to the channel immediately behind the back wall stood a large soakage jar embedded in the earth and covered with brick. In this outer area remnants of another structure and of a paved floor are the outernmost witnesses of this level at the verge of the large moat dug in from Level 4.

In the west of the court area is a group of three rooms (2–4) nearly equal in size measuring 2.2 × 2.3/2.4 m. They are separated from the hall and the southern chambers by a sort of lane each, paved and approximately 0.90–0.95 m wide, which lead to the court from the west. The northernmost room has its approach from the inner court, the other two are to be entered from the western side. In the south the block is completed by the group of store-rooms (5–7) of different size (3.25 × 2.30 and 2.60 × 2.30 m).

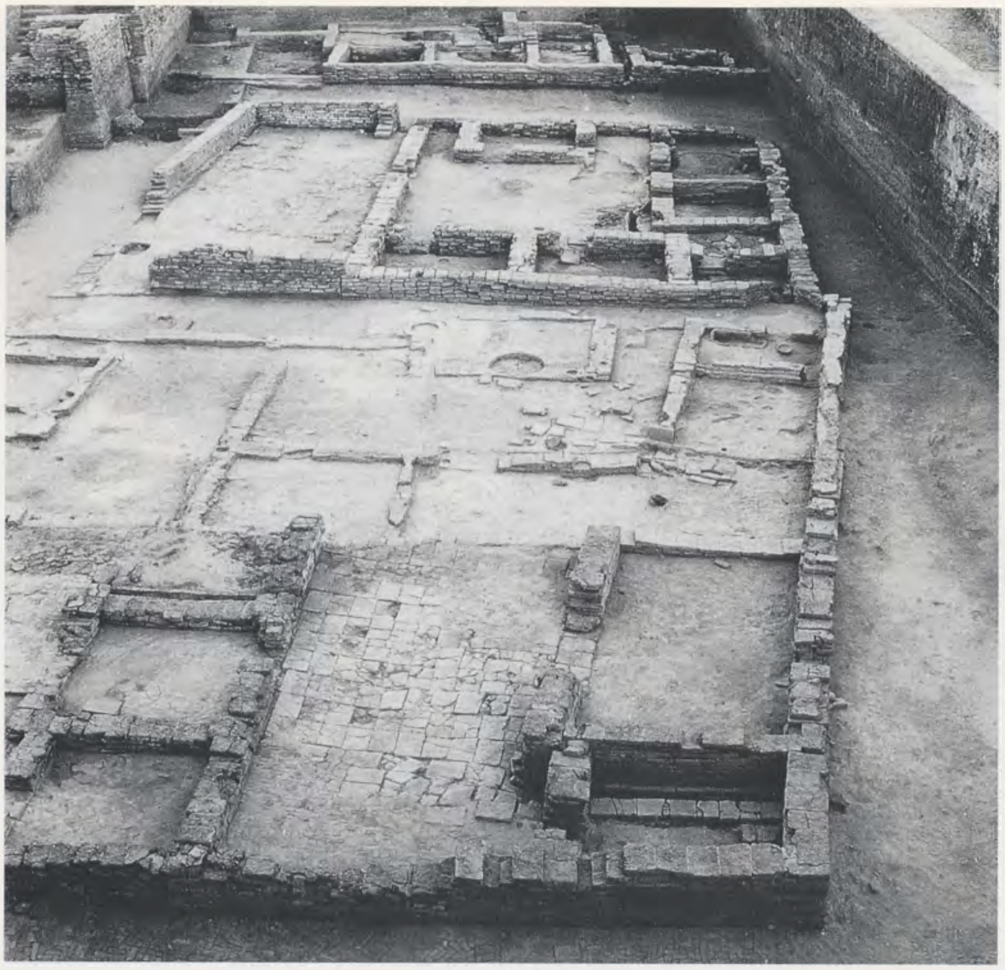
The court is bounded in the east by a long closed wall without any door-opening being the partition wall between Block A and B. Immediately in front of this wall were found heaps of roof-tiles on the floor of the court.

The sizes of the bricks used in the walls of Block A measured

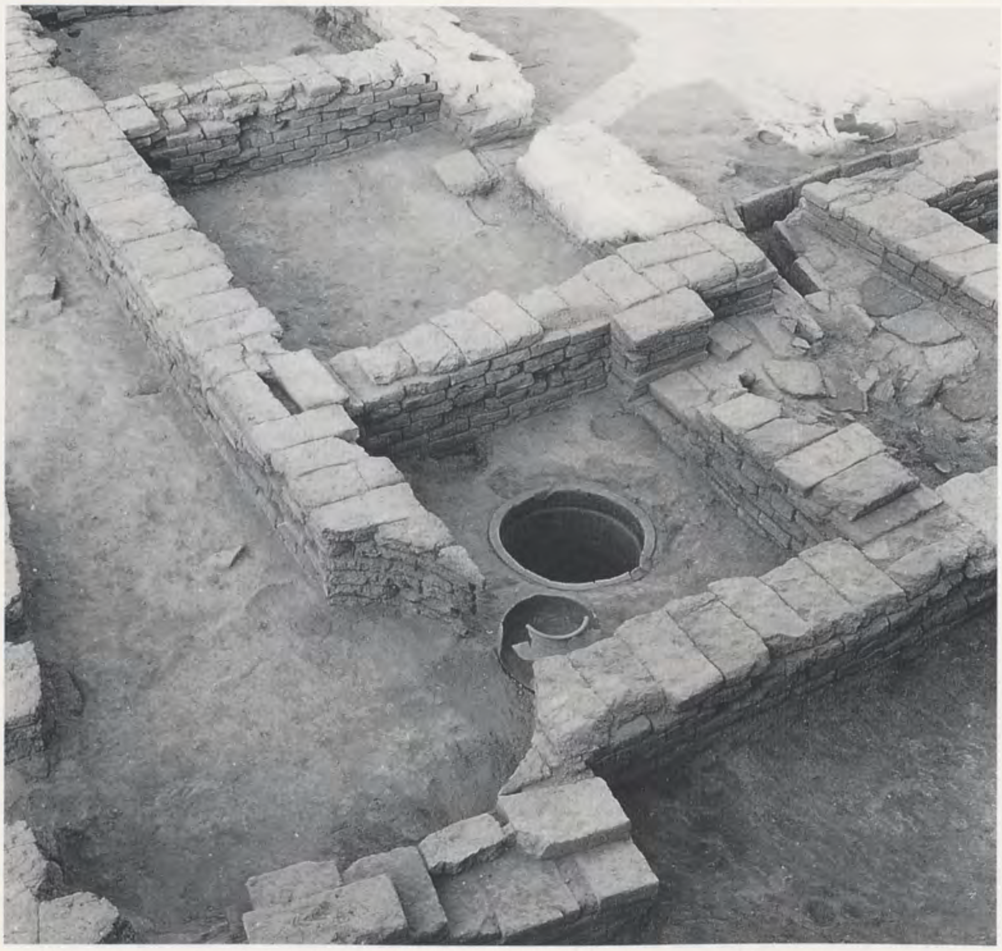
37.0 × 24.0 × 6.5 cm
38.0 × 23.0 × 7.0 cm
43.0 × 26.0 × 7.0 cm
43.0 × 29.0 × 7.0 cm
44.0 × 29.0 × 6.5–7.0 cm
44.0 × 30.0 × 7.0 cm.

Block B

Block B measures ca 7.20 × 15.25/16.00 m and consists of seven rooms which are



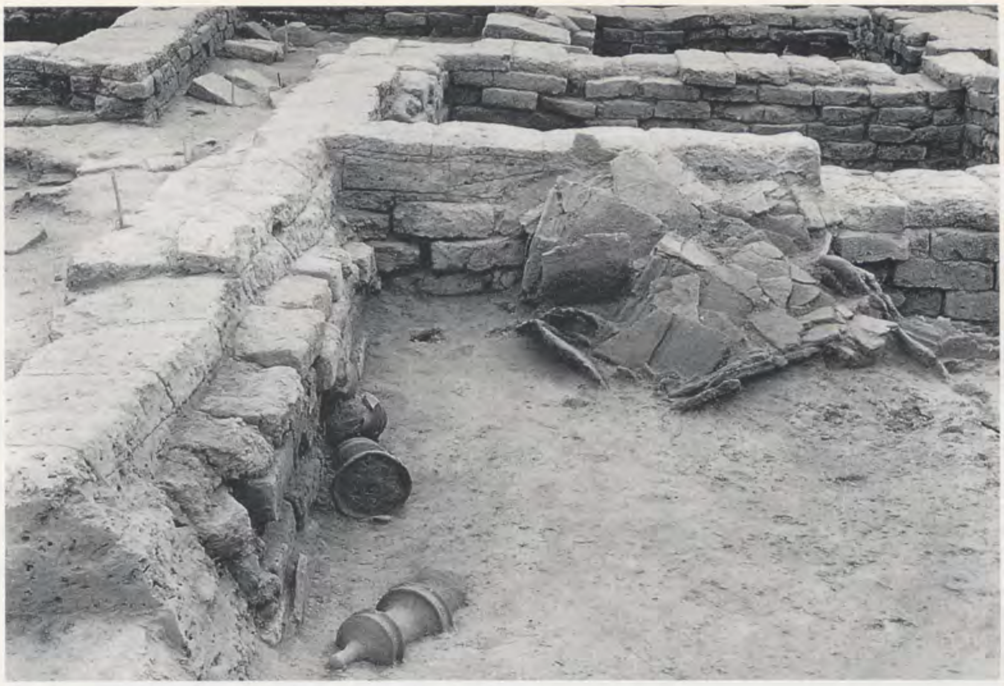
39 Level 27: Blocks B–F from west



40 Level 27: Ring-well in Block D

grouped along two inner courts. While the access to Block A leads through a narrow lane, Block B is entered through room 10 which serves as a passage on to the paved first court (Fig. 39). From here one reaches room 9 on the road side and the central group of rooms 4 to 6 north of the court. Room 5 presumably permitted the access to the northern court which is flanked by two rooms of equal size (2, 3) arranged along the closed western wall. Room 6, obviously open to the upper court, is provided with a short drain.

While Block A, especially its hall, had been erected of bricks of averagely 43.0 × 29.0 × 7.0 cm, Block B was, strangely enough, erected with bricks measuring 37.0/38.0 × 24.0 × 7.0 cm. Both sizes seem to have been used side by side but nearly never mixed. In this connection one should not forget the additional variety as e.g. in Block D with its ca 48.0 × 24.0 × 7.0 cm bricks.


41 Level 27: Roof-tiles and Pinnacles in Block D

Block C

In the space following east of Block B, denoted here as Block C and measuring ca 9.2 × 15.5 m, only scanty remains of one room and a long wall are preserved which do not permit a reconstruction of the layout. Only in a later phase of use some structures in mud-brick were found, but of minor appearance.

Block D

Block D measures ca 11.75 × 15.0/13.75 m and is surrounded on three sides by the roads no. 1, 2 and 4.

While Block A and B could be entered through a narrow lane or an entrance room, the corner-Block D surprises by a new conception. One enters the house in the north through an 11.00 m long and 4.50/5.30 m wide forecourt which follows in the north the alignment of road no. 4 but is bounded in the south by the walls of the residential quarter arranged rectangularly with the roads 2 and 1. At both sides of the paved middle part of the forecourt a few remains of former structures, presumably sheds, are preserved.

By a door, the door hinge stone still in situ, one enters the inner court (2) enclosed by houses with separate access to each room grouped to the west, south and east. This nearly square complex measures 11.75 × 9.25 m and consists of seven rooms of approximately equal size, i.e. 5.0–5.5 sqm in the clear, with the exception of room 5. This smaller south-west corner room, 1.5 × 1.9 m, contains a ring-well (Fig. 40). In a corner stood a water jar. The well consists of 36 terracotta rings one resting on top of the other but merging into one another now. The rings are ca 19.5 cm high. The outer diameter of the well is 82.0 cm, the inner 72.0 cm, its depth 6.30 m. Unlike the terracotta ring-well in Level 26 (3 I/Ca), which is situated in a public well house, this certainly private well served for the water supply of Block D alone.

As the floor of this complex slightly slopes towards south, a gully was built in the anteroom to avoid a contamination of the well by rain or waste water pouring in. From this point of view it is interesting to see that the front wall of the well room is clearly set back, most probably to get a larger roof projection against rain and heat.

In several rooms have been found remains of the collapsed roof construction consisting of roof-tiles, ridge tiles and pinnacles (Fig. 41).

Contrary to the other blocks discussed so far this Block D has been erected completely of baked bricks of a relatively uniform longish type of the sizes

48.0 × 23.5 × 7.0 cm
48.0 × 24.0 × 6.5–7.0 cm
48.0 × 24.5 × 6.5–7.0 cm
49.0 × 24.0 × 6.5 cm
50.0 × 23.0 × 7.0 cm.

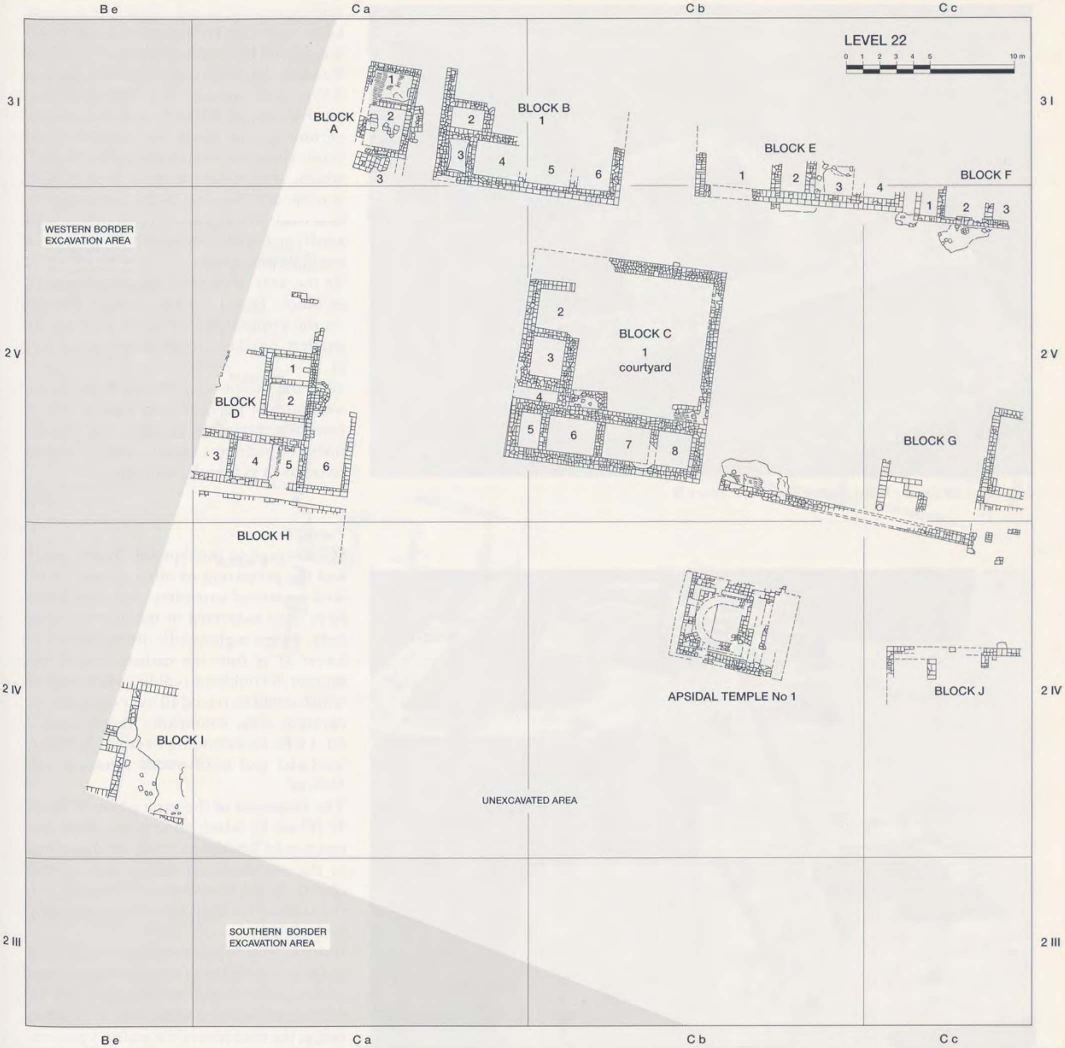
It might be an indication that this complex has been built according to a clear plan in one extreme effort and in a short time.

In the inner court, just before room 6, was found a large storage jar embedded in the ground. In addition, there have been located traces of fireplaces in both the courts of the complex. The middle room of the southern row contained a fireplace built of bricks, identifying this room as the kitchen.

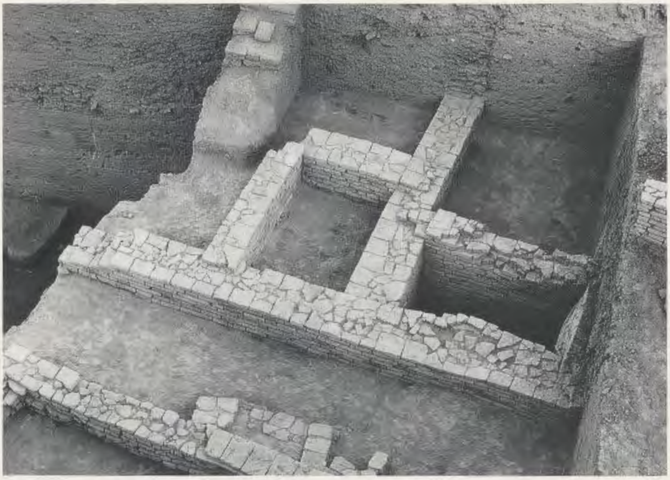
Blocks E and F/I/H

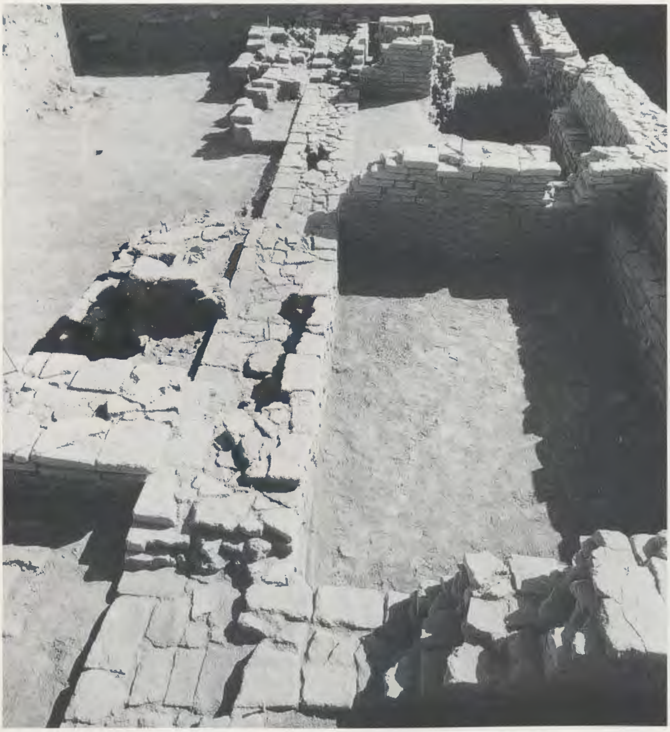
To the east of road no. 2, i.e. on the eastern verge of the excavated area, are situated the unearthed parts of the Blocks E and F. The Block E shows, as far as recognizable, a similar layout of rooms as Block D. Here again a ring-well has been built in the southwest corner room for the private water supply. But contrary to the well in D terracotta elements were used only in the upper part for ca 2.00 m, the lower part being executed as a tapering mud-well only. This well was in use up to the latest phase of Level 27 and even in the beginning of Level 26, when the well shaft, narrowing upwards, was raised by new layers of baked bricks, according to the rising height of the floor level.

To the south follows the more modest looking construction of Block F. One should however not exclude the possibility that this complex was laid out reaching further east extending into the unexcavated area. The drainage took place by a 0.50 m wide gully leading on to road level, being connected with the drainage of Block E running in front of the well room. The outer walls of the rooms adjacent to the gully are protected against decay by roof-tiles placed upright into the drain.


Be
Ca
Cb
Cc
LEVEL 22
0 1 2 3 4 5 10 m
3 I
2 V
2 IV
2 III
BLOCK A
BLOCK B
BLOCK C
1
courtyard
BLOCK D
BLOCK E
BLOCK F
BLOCK G
BLOCK H
BLOCK I
BLOCK J
APSIDAL TEMPLE No 1
WESTERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
SOUTHERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
UNEXCAVATED AREA

arated from Block B by a passage widening from 1.50 to 1.80 m towards the road. Of Block B only the southern wall together with the remains of a few rooms were preserved. The northern part of this building and of the other blocks following towards east was destroyed by the digging of the large moat of Level 4. Noteworthy is the enormous thickness of the outer and the supporting walls of the room tracts measuring 0.60–0.70 m. The lower edge of the brick foundations ranged between 20.20 and 20.35 m, the upper edge of the brickwork lay at max. 20.95 m. The southwest corner room (no. 3), however, was found to be founded on a rather astonishingly deep level, the lower edge of bricks ranging between 18.83 m in the southwestern, and ca 18.32 m in the other corners. In relation to the upper edge the brickwork of the rather small room was rising upto ca 2.50 m, inside dimensions ca 1.20 × 2.00 m (Fig. 54). There is no clear explanation for such a deep basement of this room. It might have been a kind of cold-storage chamber, but one cannot exclude the possibility of other functions as it is situated in the southwest corner of the residence where in Level 27 to 25 a ring-well was placed or where, in later levels, normally


54 Level 22: Deeply based storage chamber in Block B


55 Southern tract, Block C, Levels 22 and 21 (Phase 1)

water jars were found. Therefore it might be possible that the construction of a well was started but not finished.

Towards east followed, separated by a ca 4.50 m wide passage and shifted slightly northwards, the Block E with the remains of four rooms along the southern road front. Even less was preserved of Block F which, after a narrow passage of 0.70 m, was the next building in the line along the new road. Just in front of the southern wall small patches of a mud and brick pavement could be preserved.

To the west of Block C structural remains of Blocks D and H came to light. Rebuilt on the ground-plan of Level 23, they are partly to be taken as later phases of that level.

With the exception of Blocks B and E the structures of Level 22 were built chiefly of brickbats, showing thereby that the remains of buildings unearthed have mostly to be taken as foundation walls.

Level 21

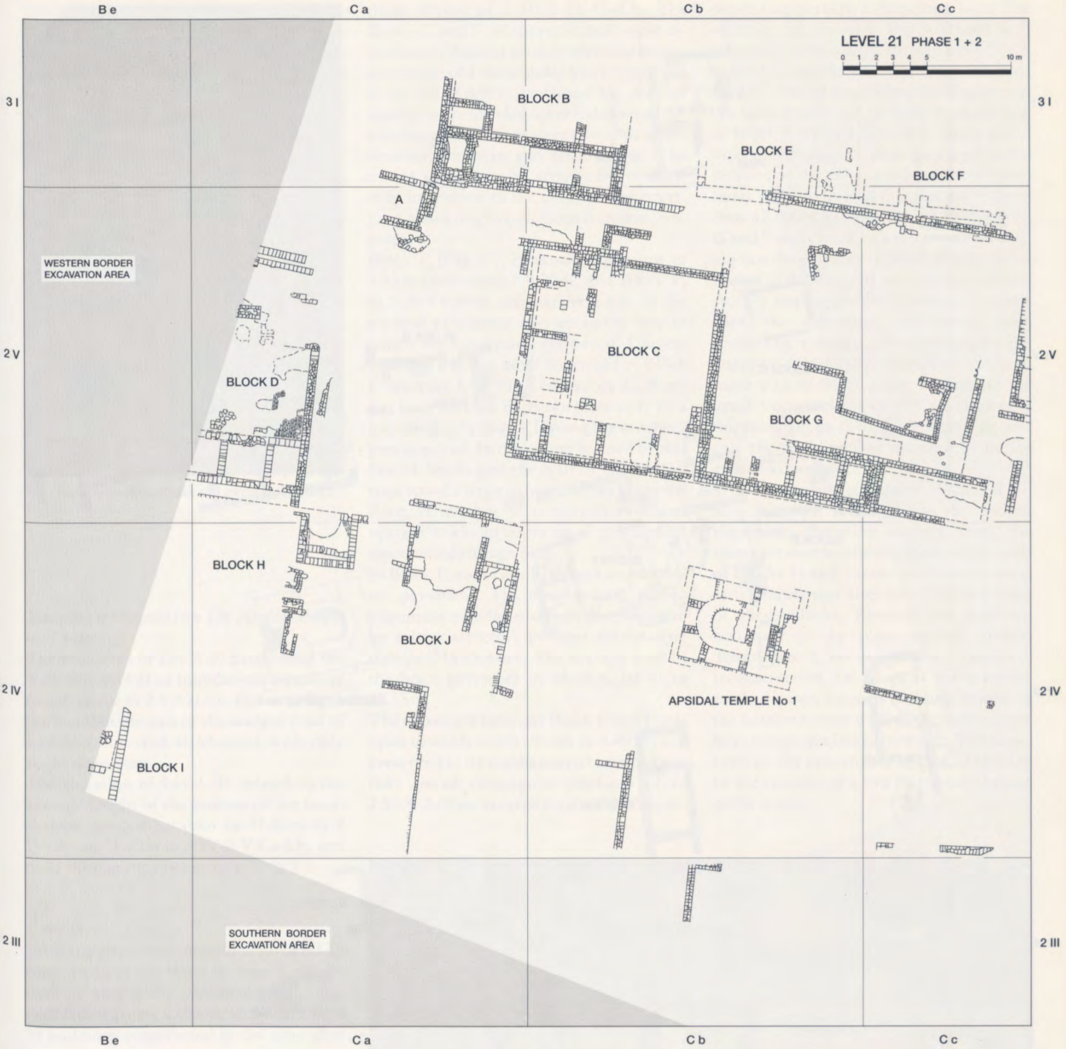
With regard to the Apsidal Temple no. 1 and the protection of other, mostly later, well-preserved structures the lower levels have been excavated in the northern area only, except regions 2 IV/Be and 2 IV/Cc. Level 21 is thus the earliest one in the mound of Sonkh the building structures of which could be traced all over the main excavation area, comprising the squares 2 III-3 I/Be-Cc extending over ca 60.00 m in west-east and north-south direction, i.e. 3600 m^2.

The structures of the early phase of Level 21 (Phase 1), which on account of the just mentioned limitation could be unearthed in the northern area only, were erected closely on the foundation of Level 22, the thickness of the walls yet reduced to mainly 0.40–0.45 m.

Block C (Fig. 55) corresponds with regard to the ground-plan to the building in Level 22 but shows slight differences in the arrangement of the rooms and, as pointed out, in the thickness of the walls. A projecting structure outside the northern wall of the block indicates that the road of Level 22 had lost its function.

In line with the southern outer wall of Block C further structures have been unearthed which take up the road axis already existent in much older times. The two long and narrow rooms of this Block G, measuring 3.40 × 17.40 m, might have formed the southern border of a courtyard, perhaps used as stables.

Like in Level 22 the Blocks B, E and F form the northern boundary of the

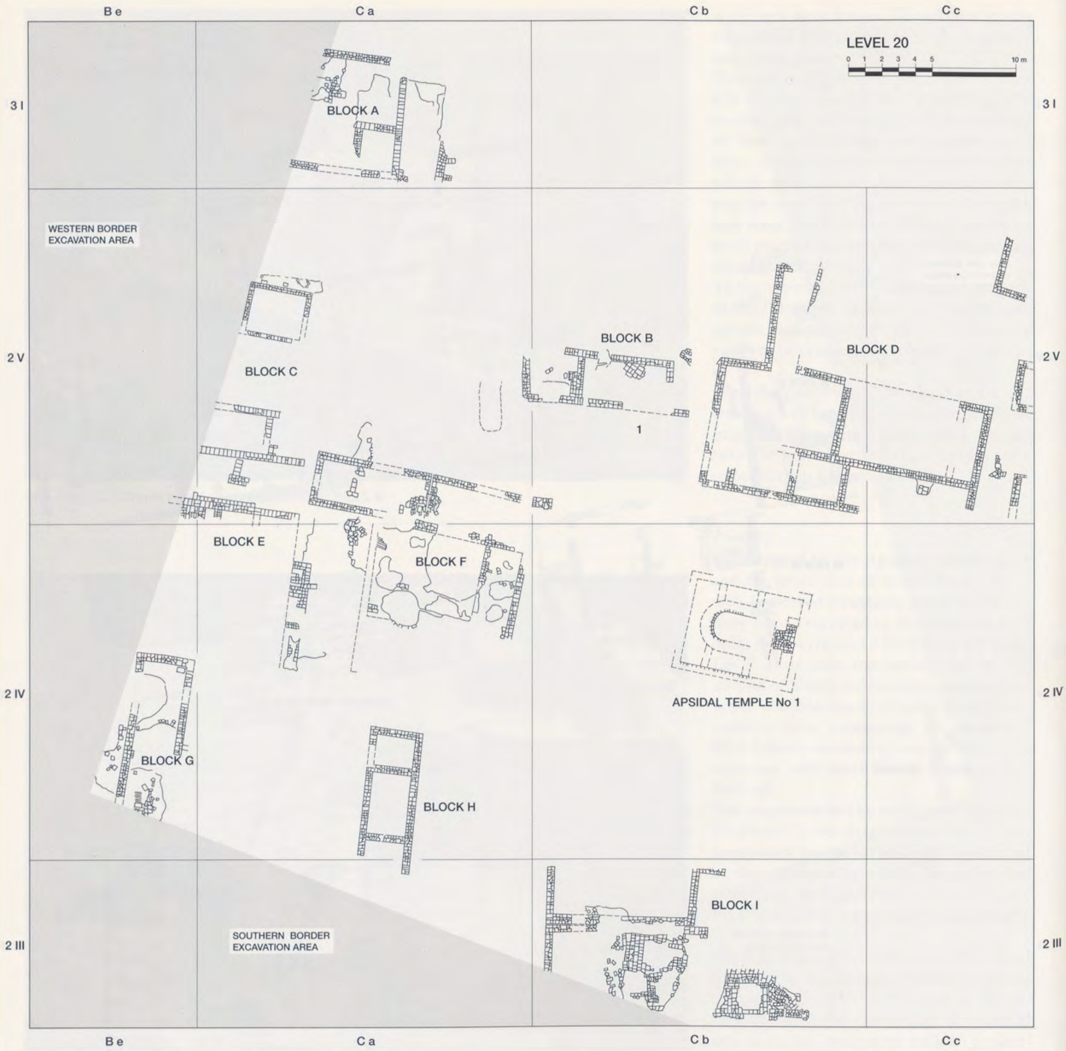

Be
Ca
Cb
Cc
3 I
2 V
2 IV
2 III
LEVEL 21 PHASE 1 + 2
0 1 2 3 4 5 10 m
BLOCK B
A
BLOCK E
BLOCK F
WESTERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
BLOCK C
BLOCK D
BLOCK G
BLOCK H
BLOCK J
APSIDAL TEMPLE No 1
BLOCK I
SOUTHERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA

built-up area so far excavated. Concerning Block B it was difficult to distinguish between structures of the Levels 22 and 21, the brickwork being reused and rebuilt again and again. Slight differences in the brickwork as well as occasionally varying foundations and additional structures based on a higher level were the only signs of alterations. While Block E followed the old plan, Block F has been based anew and shifted slightly northwards in order to get more in line with the afore-mentioned block.

The remains of the westernmost Block D showed no remarkable differences in comparison with Level 22.

The elevation of Level 21, related to the average height of the bases of the foundations ranged between ca 20.90 m in the west, ca 20.50 m in the east and ca 20.30 m in the north.

In a later time of Level 21 (Phase 2) Block C has been abandoned. The long and narrow structures of Block G formerly adjoining Block C towards east have developed now into two units separated from each other by a joint, the western one of which preserved five rooms in its southern tract. Other scanty remains of structures in 2 V/Cc could not be definitely assigned to further buildings extending too far into the unexcavated area. In place of the Blocks E and F, formerly forming the northern bound-


Be
Ca
Cb
Cc
LEVEL 20
0 1 2 3 4 5 10 m
3 I
2 V
2 IV
2 III
BLOCK A
WESTERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
BLOCK B
BLOCK C
BLOCK D
1
BLOCK E
BLOCK F
APSIDAL TEMPLE No 1
BLOCK G
BLOCK H
BLOCK I
SOUTHERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA

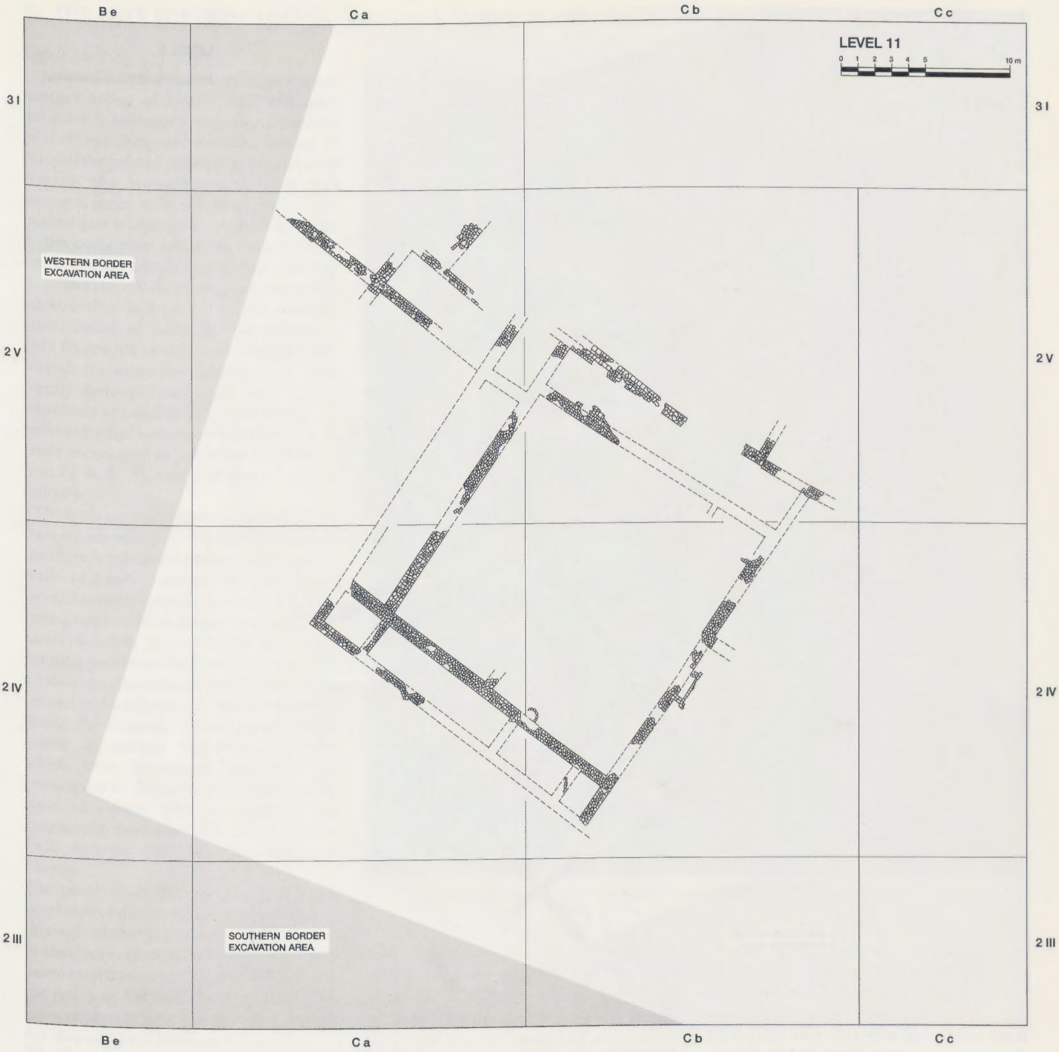
ary, remnants only of a long enclosure wall came to light.

The remains of structures in 2 IV/Ca did not betray a clear layout, but the arrangement of walls pointed to a built-up area of residences having been destroyed, in its majority, by the foundation work in later levels.

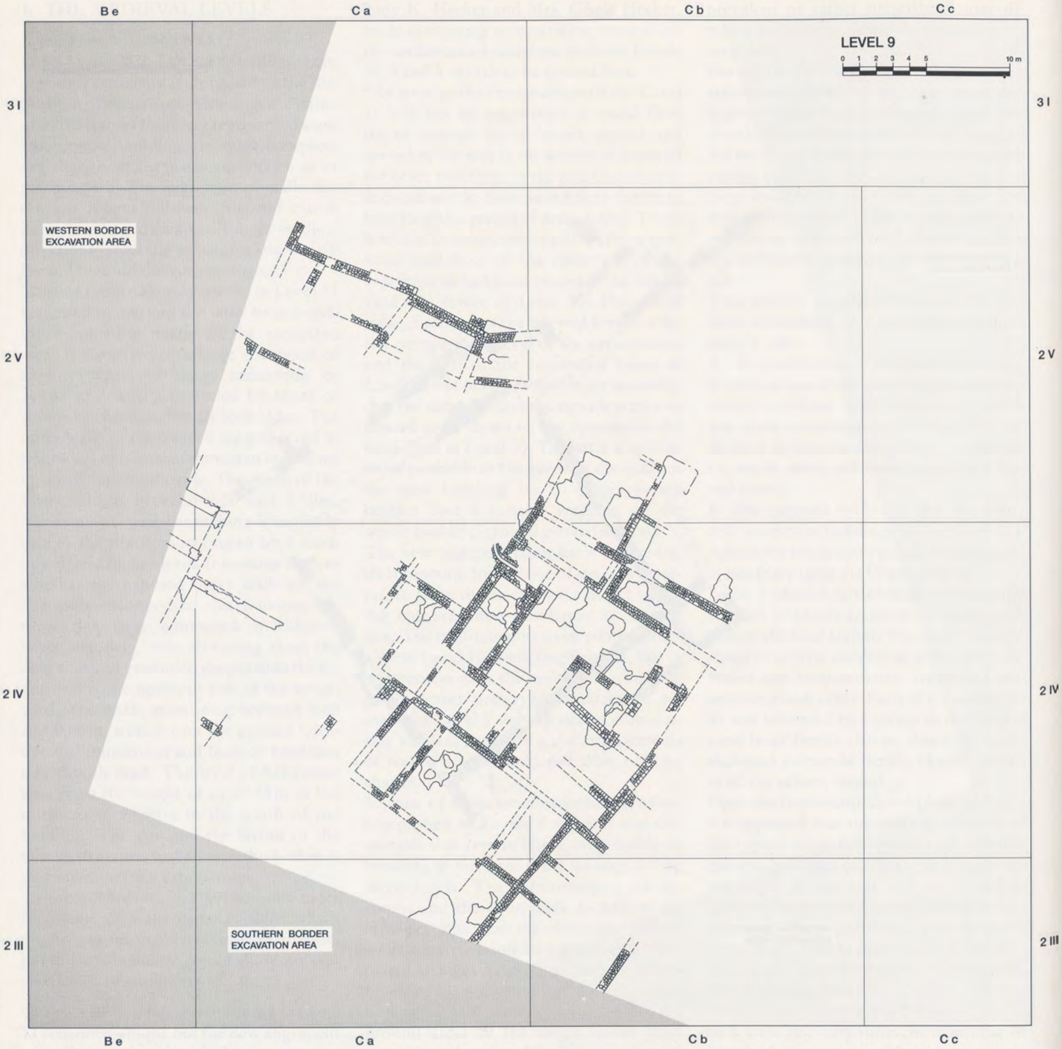
The average height, related to the bases of the structures in Phase 2 of Level 21, ranged between ca 21.20/21.40 m in 2 IV/Be and 2 IV/Ca, and ca 21.00/20.80 m in 2 V/Cc.

Level 20

Although quite a number of walls and fragmentary structures were found all over the excavated section, Level 20 did not show any clear, complete structural units because the whole area was extremely ruined by the foundation work of later levels (Fig. 56). The layout imaginable by the remaining walls lead to the assumption that the buildings of this level were residential buildings following in their alignment and arrangement the traditional rules of town planning. The southern fringe of structures in 2 III/Cb now clearly marks the place in the centre of which the Apsidal


Be
Ca
Cb
Cc
LEVEL 11
0 1 2 3 4 5 10 m
3 I
2 V
2 IV
2 III
WESTERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
SOUTHERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA

In all these levels the finds of fragmentary grey stone plaques, originating in Levels 14 to 12, continue. The Levels 11 to 9 show pottery types similar to the Post Gupta ware; the more refined pottery of the Early Gupta period has disappeared. Decoration mainly consists of black painted stripes, swans and peacocks, arches and festoons; the moulded specimens mostly show geometric ornaments. With Level 8 comes up a type of moulded jars and bottles with rich relief decoration in Islamic style. The finds of coins were helpful to date these levels into Medieval and Late Medieval times (see CHRONOLOGY).


Be
Ca
Cb
Cc
LEVEL 9
0 1 2 3 4 5 10 m
3 I
2 V
2 IV
2 III
WESTERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
SOUTHERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
Be
Ca
Cb
Cc

K. THE LATE FORTRESS LEVELS

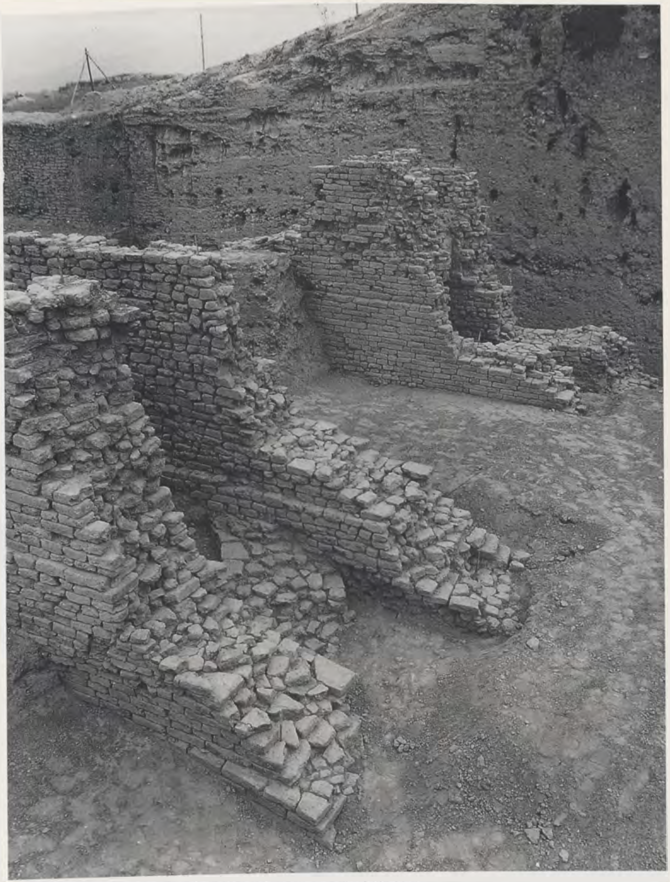
Levels 7 to 1

On top of the related Levels 10 to 8 arose another group of Levels with structures doubtlessly belonging together according to their matching architectural layout. In place of the palatial residences appeared the remains of a homogeneous fortress with strong defence walls provided with a prominent gate to the north and round towers at the corners of which the southeastern one lay in the area of excavation. The fortress developed from a more inaccurate construction in Level 7 to the carefully built citadel of Level 5. Unfortunately, only fragments of the outer walls are preserved, the inner area having been completely destroyed and used again for the structures of Level 4. The architectural development has been summarized in the already mentioned unpublished German report of W. K. Hecker and Mrs. Hecker as follows:

"The built-up and enclosed area of the fortress remained completely unchanged in all the three levels and consequently the outer walls of Level 7 existed further also in Level 5 as did the corner bastions shaped as round towers. First changes took place in Level 6 when the northern inner wall, running parallel to the thicker outer wall in a maximum distance of 0.50 m, was given up and replaced through wall lines further inside the fortress. These alterations resulted in narrow corridor-like flights which were apparently subdivided by cross-walls in different intervalls forming rows of rooms. This arrangement was maintained fundamentally in Level 5 as well, though with enlarged depth of rooms.

The position of the entrance gate at the northside of the fortress remained the same through all the three levels. Only the gate towers were removed in Level 5 about 4.00 metres northeastwards... The extension of the porch in SW-NE direction must have amounted to at least the double of the earlier measurement through it (Fig. 72).

The fortress must have been completely rectangular as could be recognized from the eastern corner of the construction. It had an axial position which deviated from the northern direction by 25° towards east. The chronological subdivision of the wall-remains of the three levels encountered partly with fundamental difficulties because these three building periods followed one another mostly without any recognizable interruption. This was the case specially with the outer wall although it had possibly phases of reconstruction to show...



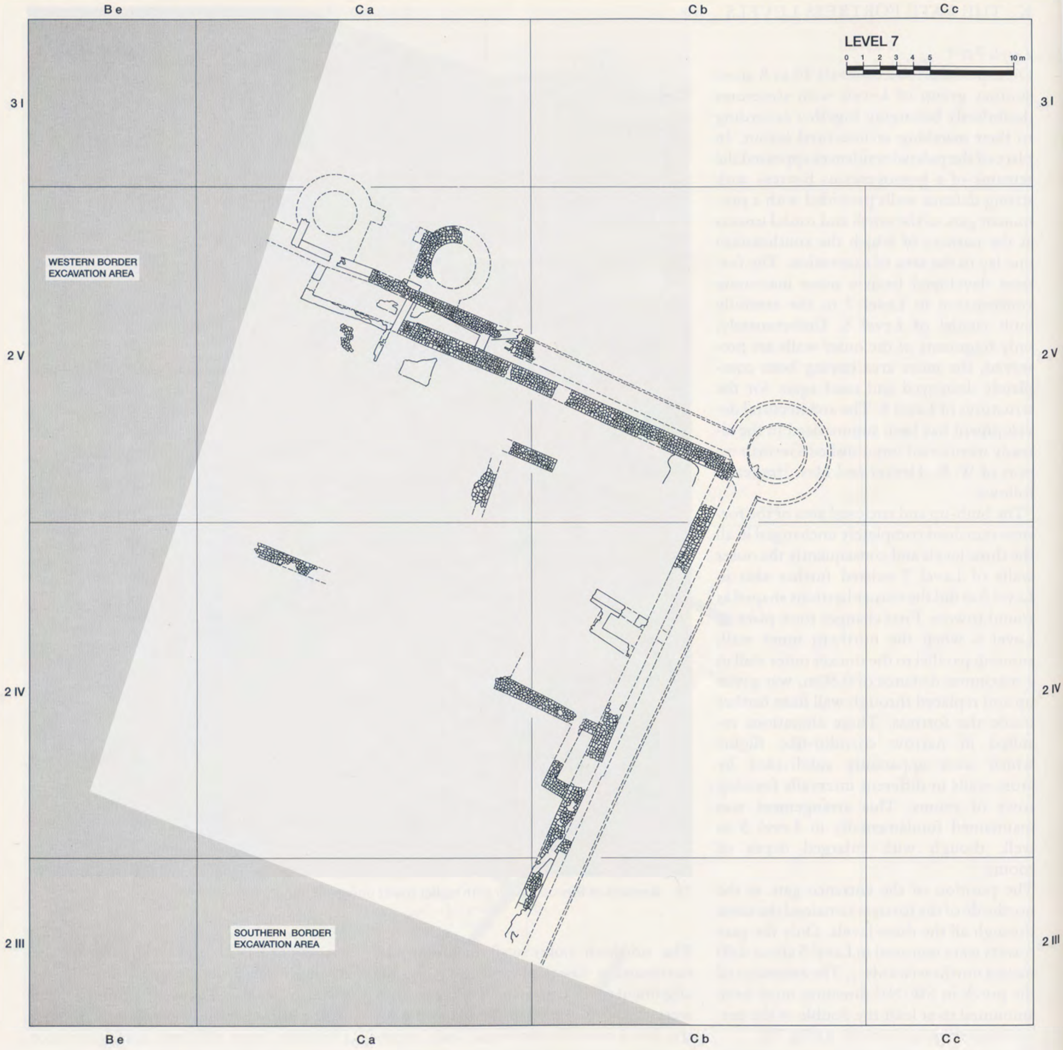
72 Remains of fortress porch with earlier tower under left wing

The northern outer wall including the northeastern tower as well as the whole alignment of the eastern wall of the fortress were therefore traced in the plan only for the Level 5 as the excavated walls represented the preserved parts of the last building phase (Figs. 73,74). In the plans of the Levels 7 and 6, only dotted contour lines were registered for these walls, which marked them as reconstructed, in this special case older, building components.

The matter was different with the architectural remains of the gate area and some reconstructions near to the outer wall which appeared in the respective plans, so far as they were to be dated...

The building material of all the preserved wall remains of the Levels 7 to 5 consisted entirely of baked bricks. Clues for the use of mud-bricks were present only at one place in Level 7. The share of undamaged baked bricks was however not very large. However, very different sizes have been used during the construction as was shown by the measurements of the complete bricks. The following is a list of the sizes noted down:

23.0 × 17.5 × 4.5 cm
25.0 × 15.5 × 4.5 cm
26.0 × 16.0 × 4.5 cm
28.0 × 16.5 × 5.0 cm
29.0 × 20.0 × 5.0 cm
29.0 × 25.0 × 6.5 cm
31.0 × 20.5 × 6.5 cm
39.0 × 26.0 × 8.0 cm


Be
Ca
Cb
Cc
LEVEL 7
0 1 2 3 4 5 10 m
3 I
2 V
2 IV
2 III
WESTERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
SOUTHERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA

As for the habitational niveaus of the three fortress levels, only very few and very general statements on the eventual height are possible on account of the very scanty floor-remains. As in Level 4, the whole interior of the old fortress was disturbed completely whereby almost all the inner walls of Levels 7 to 5 must have been pulled down up to the fundamental layers, neither the habitational levels nor the ground plan conception of the interior of the fortress could be ascertained... Within the three levels the floor remains seemed to indicate a difference of elevation of about 0.30 or 0.20 m, from the one to the next younger level."

In fact, the ground levels did only slightly surpass that of Level 8. The small patches of floor preserved here and there measure in the north of Level 7 ca 25.65–25.86 m, in the north of Level 6 ca 25.65–25.81 m and little more south ca 26.07–26.21 m. In Level 5 the highest patches of floor were exposed at ca 26.07–26.14 m in the north and ca 26.26–26.32 m towards south.

The measures of the main walls were registered as follows: The northern double wall in the early Level 7 measured altogether 2.80–2.90 m in section with varying thickness of the single walls between 0.80 and

5. In none of the walls surrounding the inner courtyard there were doors for closing; the neighbouring rooms were to be entered all through three to five open passageways separated from one another by pillars only. Rolled-up mats or curtains ought to have made up for the doors as was the rule with the Indian palace buildings.
6. The drainage of the roofs occured through diversions into the inner yard and from there on the main yard through the southern group of rooms.
7. Both the houses were rebuilt in later time and extended towards the south moreover."

"The built-up area of the eastern residence covered a space of 420 m^2 during the first habitational phase. The dimensions of the north and the south side amounted to 18.50 m and 18.85 m, those of the west and east side 22.50 m each. During the later extension towards south, the inhabited space enlarged to ca 463 m^2.
The second residential quarter (west) was only slightly larger. The total length of the east-west dimension must have amounted to approximately 18.60 m, that of the north-south dimension measured, during the earliest time of occupation, 24.95 m at the westside and 25.95 m at the eastside. This resulted in a built-up area of almost 467 m^2. After the erection of an additional row of rooms in the south and an extension of this tract eastwards close to the first residential quarter the building enlarged to over 528 m^2."

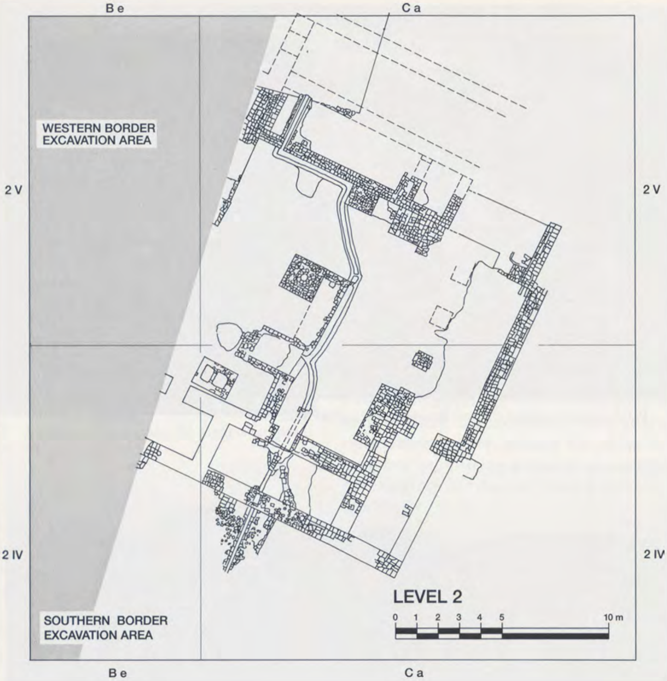
In the courtyards and rooms of the residences were located several floors following one above the other from the beginning of phase I to the end of phase II. The height of the floor-levels of the eastern building differed slightly from that of the western one. In the residential quarter 1 (east) the courtyard floors lay at a height between 26.64 and 26.86 m, in the various rooms they ranged between 26.67 and 27.12 m. Residential quarter 2 (west) had the courtyard floors at 26.38–26.53 m and the room floors between 26.50 and 26.83 m.

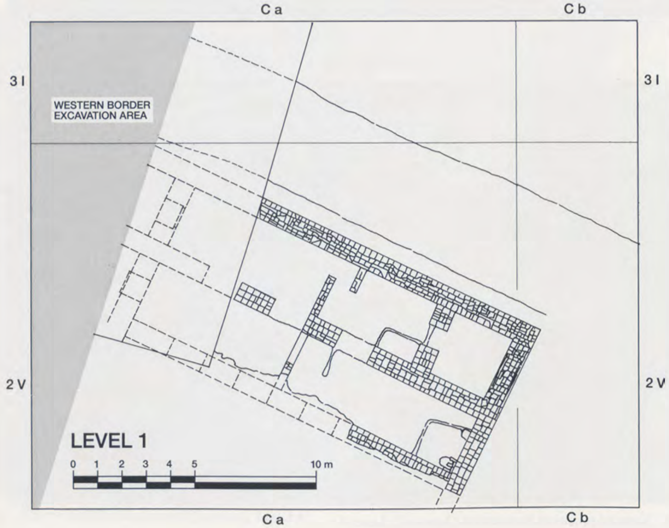
The modest remains of structures following above in the Levels 3 to 1 depended in their layout on the construction of Level 4. Level 3, palpable only in the region of the old western residence, was recognizable by its careless building work, by built-in mud walls and the partial breaking off of the separating wall to the eastern residence. The floors were located at the height of 27.02–27.30 m averagely. Stronger even were the alterations in Level 2 leaving as much as nothing of the former western re-

77 Partiton wall between the two Residential Quarters in Level 4

78 Courtyard and pilasters of Residential Quarter 2, Level 4

79 View of rooms in Residential Quarter 2, Level 4


Be
Ca
WESTERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
2 V
2 V
2 IV
2 IV
SOUTHERN BORDER EXCAVATION AREA
LEVEL 2
0 1 2 3 4 5 10 m
Be
Ca



sidential quarter with the exception of the outer boundary. The room-tracts around the courtyard were for the most part removed, at the northern border of the new greater yard a 1.00 m wide staircase leading upwards was erected of baked bricks. Conspicuous was a branching drainage system consisting of slightly curved mortar-plastered gullies and smaller as well as larger water basins. The building material was generally composed of brickbats now. The floor lay between 27.16 and 27.48 m, the terrace had its level at 27.95–28.05 m.
The eastern residential quarter does not seem to have endured such phases of reconstruction. It rather looked as if the whole quarter had soon been filled up and not been used for new constructions anymore.

The remains of Level 1 situated above the former western residential quarter showed a northern tract similarly arranged as that in the old building. The northern wall has been moved slightly outwards and was built of mud-bricks like all the other walls. This outer wall was not leaning against the rampart but had been carefully erected vertically showing a clean wall space. The floors of this level lay at the height of 28.34 and 28.61 m. The rampart of Level 4 was still existing but just as a survival of older times.

How and why the latest residences had been abandoned could be explained neither by the condition of the structural remains nor by other indications. There are no signs of a hasty desertion nor of destruction by warlike actions. Remarkable is the fact that with the exception of a greater number of well preserved vessels of all sizes left on the floors and fragments of latest terracotta animals almost no utensils of daily use were found. The excavated buildings gave the impression of having been carefully cleared out, as if by a well conceived plan.

III. CHRONOLOGY

Period I. According to the stratigraphic data discussed above the accumulation of earth, on average 1.00 m thick, containing Painted Grey Ware as well as Black and Red Ware sherds could be subdivided into four levels numbered 40 to 37. In all trenches where these wares were encountered they rested right on the natural soil. The surface height of this soil in diverse places gives an indication of the range of the earliest settlement area at Sonkh. In the north (Trench 1) it measures between 14.25 and 14.50 m. The more western Trench 3 gives a height between 14.00 and 15.00 m (situated partly in ground water, perhaps sloped). In the southwestern Trench 4 the natural soil was reached at 15.50 to 15.75 m and in the small southeastern Trench 2 at a height of 15.30 m.

The comparable data for the upper edge of the compact pile of PGW and BRW soil are: Trench 1 = 15.40–15.50 m; Trench 3 = 16.40 m; Trench 4 = 16.45 m; Trench 2 = 16.30 m. As mentioned in the stratigraphic report above three radiocarbon data help to determine the age of the levels of the PGW Period I at Sonkh. The earliest charcoal sample was taken at a height of 14.80 m in 3 I 11.5/Ca 14.2 (Trench 1), situated in Level 39. Its date is 2645±90 cal BP = 695 cal BC. The second sample came from 2 IV 8.45/Be 17.5 at a height of 15.40 m corresponding to Level 37 and resulting in a date of 2598±140 cal BP = 648 cal BC. The third sample had been gathered from a conflagration layer immediately above the sloping PGW pile of earth at 14.77 m in 2 IV 15.95/Cc 2.30, i.e. the northeastern cutting, giving a date of 2454±124 cal BP = 504 cal BC. As no charcoal material was found in the earliest PGW-Level 40 one has to concede some space of time for it. But even at a generously hypothetical assumption up to one hundred years one does not come to any time older than ca 800 BC for the beginning of the Painted Grey Ware settlement at the old Sonkh.

Period II. Directly above the last PGW-Level 37 follow, externally indicated by a stupendous change in the colour of earth from yellowish to grey, the first mud-structures and finds of a cultural context very different from the one before. In any case, the presence of PGW and BRW sherds ceases abruptly in Level 36. Following the appearance of different pottery shapes of the Associated Ware the first sherds of the Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW) were found. Along with them typical Mauryan terracotta figurines and uninscribed cast and die-struck coins (COINS, nos. 1–5) as well as a silver punch-marked coin (no. 49) have been recovered.

Period II extends up to Level 29, including the levels of the Śuṅga Cultural Phase (Level 32–30) and the first level of transition (Level 29). The unusual term Śuṅga Cultural Phase, abbreviated in the description of objects as Śuṅga C. P., has to be understood as an expression of reasonable doubt whether the Śuṅgas ever ruled over the State of Mathura. But the term implies that the find material, especially terracotta figurines, found above Level 33 upto Level 30, definitely proves to be different regarding shape and style from the preceding specimens, and represents what usually is classified as "Śuṅga". The stylistical and iconographical development of the terracotta materials, so conspicuous in Period II, is discussed in the respective chapters. Special attention needs the first appearance of a terracotta *plaque* among all the free-standing types.

Most important are the finds of coins found along with the terracotta objects of the Levels 32 to 30, consisting of uninscribed die-struck specimens, showing a lion before Indradhvaja symbol (COINS, nos. 4–6), and punch-marked copper and silver coins (nos. 7–49) which were still the currency with the largest circulation.

For the Levels 30 and 29, the complete absence of the free-standing grey terracotta female figures found in the previous layers is typical. Although females remain the favourite subject, the domestic art is now characterized by moulded terracotta plaques. The style of the figures depicted is still akin to that of the Śuṅga Cultural Phase. The pottery has hardly changed in design.

With Level 29 the manner of constructing buildings changed conspicuously. While from Level 36 to 30 all buildings were erected of mud walls, the structures of the Levels 29 and 28 were for the first time built of mud-bricks. This change heralded the end of the Śuṅga Cultural Phase and marked the transition to the period of the Local States of Northern India, here the State of Mathura under the dynasty of the Mitra rulers, towards the end of the second century BC. To this period of transition belong two unusual die-struck copper coins (COINS, nos. 52–53), one showing a standing human figure before bull on the obverse and the Ujjain symbol on the reverse, the other with an indistinct obverse, but again the Ujjain symbol on the reverse.

Period III. At first sight, Level 28 appeared to offer little changes because the potteries were almost the same and no alterations were actually to be registered in the building methods as revealed by the few remains of houses in comparison with those of Level 29. Only the terracotta plaques showed signs of an emancipation as if they wanted to establish an off-from-the-Śuṅga movement. Conspicuous is the increasing number of fragments of votive tanks as implements for the domestic *pūjā* and the first appearance of terracotta seals and sealings showing symbols or names inscribed in Brāhmī. The beginning of a new era, however, became evident by the find of two special coins, being the first inscribed coins from Sonkh. Their reading runs *gomitasa* (COINS, nos. 54–55), thus proving that they were issued by Gomitra, the first of the Mitra rulers of Mathura. These two specimens were discovered at completely different spots in 3 I/Ca and 2 IV/Cc wide apart from each other, but definitely in the same level. The clear succession of coins in the subsequent levels proved that the Gomitra coins are rightly ascribed to Level 28. According to the finds and their structural context Gomitra seems to have ruled for a short time only; already in Level 27 Sūryamitra follows as the next of the Mitra rulers of Mathura. This Level 27 is the one with the first group of buildings mentioned above as having been built of baked bricks. Not less than eight clearly identifiable and legible Sūryamitra coins of the standard type (COINS, nos. 56–60d) as well as ten utterly small 1/8 Kārṣāpaṇa coins of this Sūryamitra level (nos. 61–65 d and introductory remarks in COINS) were found in the streets and houses of this most extensively excavated level and also in the lower phase of Level 26. The solidity and comfort of structures as well as the abundance of finds create the impression of a great prosperity; it seems that Sūryamitra had not only been the most important but also the Mitra king with the longest reign. A charcoal sample collected in Level 27 (3 I/Ca) at a height of 18.40 m resulted in a carbon age of 2171±108 cal BP = 221 cal BC, being no doubt a bit too early.

The succession of coins continues on top of the Sūryamitra level; five coins of Brahmamitra (nos. 66–70) and two of Viṣṇumitra (nos. 71–72) follow in the upper phase of Level 26 and in Level 25. Nowhere between Level 28 to 25 Mitra coins occured in a mix-up. Therefore, the conclusion may be drawn that, at the time of the Mitra kings, the circulating coins used to lose their validity with the death of the ruler. The find situation leaves no doubt that the succession of the Mitra rulers of Mathura is herewith established as Gomitra – Sūryamitra – Brahmamitra – Viṣṇumitra beginning at the end of the second century BC and extending over most of the first century BC. As to Dṛḍhamitra, not present at Sonkh, see Härtel, 1986, p. 105.

The placing of Gomitra into a phase subsequent to the middle Śuṅga period in the Puranic lists can hardly be doubted. It is more difficult to determine the length of the reign for the successive rulers. It would be unrealistic and incompatible with all excavation experiences to assume a substantially longer period than twenty years for the individual levels. Moreover, the group of Mitra levels is embedded in an uninterrupted sequence of building activities. In fact, no more Mitra coins appeared in Level 24, the first Kṣatrapa level.

One may hope for an archaeological establishment of that succession of coins in other Local States of Northern India. It is, of course, quite possible that one or the other Local State may have been founded somewhat earlier than that of Mathura, but the disintegration of the Śuṅga Kingdom, if playing a role at all, began most probably in the last third of the second century BC.

Period IV. Levels 24 and 23 belong to the time of the Kṣatrapas of Mathura. The earliest Kṣatrapa coins recovered near to Level 25 were two specimens of Hagāmaṣa (COINS, nos. 73–74) and one of the Rāja Rāmadatta (no. 75). Immediately above, in the Levels 24 and 23, fourteen more Kṣatrapa coins were unearthed within the houses and on the roads. One of them is a Mathura issue of Rājuvula (no. 79), but the bulk hails from Śoḍāsa (nos. 80–81 and *Note*). Besides, three more Rāmadatta specimens were found within the same levels (nos. 76–78). It seems as if the rule of the Kṣatrapas overlapped the reign of Rāmadatta. Noteworthy is that only Rāmadatta coins were detected and none of the other numerous -dattas. The outcome of the Sonkh excavation raises the question whether the dynasty of the Dattas can be considered as a continuous one of fifteen rulers in succession. Or will it not be more probable that most of the Dattas ruled concurrently in small subdistricts of Mathura and the surrounding area and that the period of their reign extended over a few decades only? It would be interesting to know which Datta coins were found in other parts of the Mathura district and the neighbouring states. D. C. Sircar's (1953, p. 171) dating of the Dattas subsequent to that of the Kṣatrapas, i.e. into the Kuṣāṇa time, could not be confirmed at Sonkh contrary to his quite acceptable date for the Mitras.

The occurrence of an element of a different culture within Level 23 has already been observed when dealing with the building activities in this Period IV. In Level 23, for instance, the roof construction and the layout of the houses underwent considerable changes. The shape of pottery, as found in Levels 26 and 25, was replaced by new types of earthenware. Yet it cannot be overlooked that, along with the independent ceramics of Level 23, the first examples of stamped "Kuṣāṇa" pottery appear.

Among the finds, the numerous figures of a particular type of Mother Goddesses (TERR.HUM.FIG., nos. 79ff.) attracted attention. No figure representing Kubera and Skanda had been found so far. This was all the more astonishing, for in Level 21 the cult of these gods was already quite common. In this connection a seal-impression may be mentioned bearing the name *Anaṅgabala* in two scripts, i.e. in Brāhmī and Kharoṣṭhī, which throws some light on the eclectic nature of that culture.

Naturally, no absolute date can be given also for the Kṣatrapa levels. But there is no doubt that the Kṣatrapa houses were built directly upon the last Mitra structures. The sequence of levels requires for Hagāmaṣa, whose two coins were unearthed below that of Rājuvula, a date in the end of the first century BC. Even without any attempt to dateRājuvula and Śoḍāsa, it is evident that at Sonkh their reign reaches into the first century of the Christian era.

Period V. The Levels 22 to 16 are all belonging to the Kuṣāṇa time. Level 22 was built directly on the worn-out structures of Level 23 in its late phase. While this level takes over in its transitional stage the size of bricks from the preceding Level 23 (cp. SOME STRUCT.OBJ.), the houses of the Levels 21 to 16 were generally built of bricks of the usual Kuṣāṇa size of 37 × 23 × 5 cm. The advent of the Kuṣāṇa times was best documented in the overwhelming mass of stamped Kuṣāṇa potteries accompanied by diverse finds of terracotta objects, especially figurines, of stone sculptures, metal images and objects, and a good number of stamps with names incised in Kuṣāṇa Brāhmī. The earliest coins are those of Wima Kadphises/Kaniṣka I (COINS, nos. 83–87) followed by such of Huviṣka. A pot with 120 copper coins found in a house of Level 16 contained mainly issues of Vāsudeva I and his successors (nos. 93–106). An interesting find was a crossbar from a stone railing found in the filling material of Level 19, i.e. belonging to Level 18, bearing an inscription dated into the time of Mahārāja Kaniṣka (I) but used as rubbish already a few decades after his reign (OTHER INSCR.OBJ., no. 6).

Not all of the Kuṣāṇa levels are equally well preserved. Layers of ashes and other residues indicate that the one or the other structure was destroyed by force. Quite often, the older building materials were reused for a new construction. The classification of the individual levels is facilitated by the circumstance that most of them were rebuilt according to a fixed plan, after the older area was filled up and levelled. Every now and then, the rows of walls in the new structures coincided with those of the preceding ones, since the approximately north-western direction of building was adhered to throughout the Kuṣāṇa settlement in Sonkh; the old walls could, therefore, be reused as foundations. Where the building plan differed, new foundations were laid without any consideration of the older constructions, quite often cutting through the old brickwork. Only one particular building remained in one and the same place: the structure marked as Apsidal Temple 1 on the open space in 2 IV/Cb. This structure was rebuilt, extended and overbuilt again and again through all the Kuṣāṇa habitation periods (see H. APSIDAL TEMPLE NO. 1).

Judging from the succession of structures with its distinct floor-levels, the stages of reconstruction of the temple and the species as well as the position of relevant finds, the altogether seven Kuṣāṇa levels may tentatively be ascribed as follows:

Level 22–20 = Kaniṣka I
Level 19–17 = Huviṣka
Level 16 = Vāsudeva I and Successors

Level 19 yielded a charcoal sample collected in 3 I/Ca which resulted in a carbon age of 1935 ± 103 cal BP = 15 cal AD.

Periods VI to VIII. Level 16 was the last level with extensively preserved structures representing a built-up area. Above Level 16 the mound of Sonkh presents a picture of destruction and decay leaving nothing but fragments of mostly unconnected walls. The attribution of the fragmentary structural remains to distinct levels and the location of level-floors was, consequently, very difficult. The only method to reconstruct a possible layout of buildings and to allot them to the one or the other level was to arrange the wall-fragments according to their structural similarity, average height, direction, their fitting together, and the general levelling of the area under consideration of possible gradients. It is thus possible that more than one phase of occupation was connected with the levels reconstructed in this way.

Level 15/14 is by its structural connection with Level 16 and by the finds of definite Gupta materials, like the fragment of a terracotta relief with the depiction of a Makara as *vāhana* of goddess Gaṅgā (TERR. HUM.FIG., no. 186), the characteristic Gupta sherds decorated with marvellously moulded designs (DECO.POT., nos. 159–161), and the concentrated appearance of a special type of red slipped jars with bands of horizontal black painted stripes (e.g. POTTERY, VI.8–19, et passim), clearly belonging to the Gupta period.

Levels 14 to 12, still aligned in the same direction as Level 15, show no distinct datable features except a conspicuous concentration of moulded "lotus"-bowls with and without stand (e.g. POTTERY, VI.78–79), and of crude grey stone plaques depicting Hindu gods and goddesses for domestic worship, a type of image which is living on up to medieval times. Contrary to such *groups* of finds one has to be cautious with regard to *single* objects found in these disturbed levels, as for instance, the two late medieval and muslimic coins (COINS, nos. 118; 124) which certainly do not belong to them. There is, in fact, no coin helping to date these levels; but judging from the structural sequence and according to the context of the safe group finds, Levels 14 to 12 belong in all probability to Post Gupta and Early Medieval times.

Level 11 presented not only a singular construction in form of a caravanserai but introduced also a new era of building conceptions resulting in a change of the alignment of walls. They follow no longer the old course, but they are arranged nearly diagonally to the cardinal directions, as did from now on all the structures following Level 11. As discussed in the structural report, the caravanserai may have existed for a comparatively long period and may not have been used for a longer time after its desertion, although Levels 10 and 9 partly reached down to the floors of Level 11. An exact dating of this level and the following one is not possible, but besides the finds of typical pottery and the continuation of the appearance of the grey stone plaques mentioned above, there have to be considered a number of coins mostly recovered as stray finds but nevertheless testifying the presence of structures belonging to the time when those coins were valid. One of them has been found below a floor of Level 9 but was presumably passed on from Level 11 or even 12. It is a silver coin of the Indo-Sassanian type of the time of Vigrahapāla and his Successors, to be dated into the 10th century AD (COINS, no. 108). Other specimens, all stray finds, represent the Muslim Dynasties of Delhi, i.e. the Turks (Iltutmish, no. 109), the Khaljis (Jalaluddin Firuz II., no. 110), the Tughluqs (Firuz Shah III and Mahmud II, nos. 111–112), and the Lodis (Ibrahim Shah II, no. 113). They are followed by coins of the Suris (Sher Shah and Islam Shah, 114–119), four of which were concentrated in Level 8.

Considering the sudden change in the building conception and the strange construction of a caravanserai it seems possible that Level 11, after a period of abandonment of Level 12, was erected in the time of the Turks of Delhi. Should, on the other hand, the Gadhaiya coin of the 10th century give the date for Level 11 then the following Levels 10 to 8 would represent the time of the Muslim Dynasties. In any case, four of the five coins of Sher Shah Suri (nos. 114–118) have, as just mentioned, been found in the range of Level 8 providing a trustworthy date and indicating the near end of the Pre-Mughal period.

Thus the question arises whether the first of the three successive fortress Levels 7 to 5, built solely of baked bricks, has still to be assigned to Sher Shah or whether it belonged to the time of the Mughals already? Unfortunately, these fortress levels did not yield any clearly datable find. Among the pottery the delicate ware of moulded jars and bottles with rich relief decoration, coming up in Level 8, continues. The coins recovered were all stray finds and again not sufficiently helpful for an exact dating. There are seven coins of Akbar, three of Jahangir, one of Shahjahan and one of Aurangzeb (COINS, nos. 120–131), one Akbar and two Jahangir specimens of which have a chance to hail from Levels 7/6, while the Aurangzeb coin might come from Level 5. But at the end of Level 5 the fortress was, in all probability, in the hands of the Jāṭs coming to power in this region as a result of the Mughal misrule at the close of the 17th century.

The last constructional phase of the citadel began with Level 4, quite conspicuous by its strong ramparts of mud covering now the old fortress walls. This method of excessively piling up mud for defense was adopted also for building the gigantic mud fortifications around the locality of Dig, situated near to Sonkh, under Badansingh of Bharatpur (1722–56). The fortress of Sonkh of the Level 4 has in all probability been reconstructed latest in 1730 when the prince regent Sūraj Mall erected the rubble-and-mud citadel of Dig which was surrounded by a similar wide moat as did the Sonkh citadel in the time of Level 4.

The hey-day of the Jāṭs in this region did not last long. After the reign of Sūraj Mall (1756–63) and his son Jawāhir Singh (1764–68) the decline of the Jāṭ power began. In 1770 Sonkh found itself in the centre of a decisive battle between the Jāṭs and the Marāṭhās which was, as a historian reports, fought near the fort of Sonkh (Qanungo, 1925, pp. 231 f.) One will not be far from the truth with the presumption that the active time of the fortified citadel of Sonkh, temporarily a stronghold of the Jāṭs, came to an end with this event. For some decades more the residence quarters in the citadel were occupied and here and there reconstructed and rebuilt, but finally the place had to be abandoned for unknown reasons.

IV. THE FINDS

A. TERRACOTTA OBJECTS

1. Human Figurines

During the excavation a great number of terracotta objects were recovered, among them not less than seven hundred and sixty-eight mostly fragmentary human figurines. There are, of course, many too tiny or irrelevant fragments not worth to be published. But on the whole two hundred and sixty-three specimens have been selected for description and illustration. Eighty-eight more fragments will appear as duplicates or comparable specimens under the number of their prototype. All the pieces will be presented in their stratigraphic context, but arranged according to type within the respective period. The technical, iconographical and historical details, as changes in shape and style and eventual token of development, will be discussed in full length in the introductory remarks to each period separately.

Most of the types of figurines or fragments of them can be assigned to distinct periods or have been found just overlapping the next one. But there are two groups of terracotta figures which are surviving for a longer period or can not be associated with any style because of their simple nature. The first group is that of the Nude Dwarfish Male Figures, the second comprises the so-called Tribal Figures which are shaped beyond any line of style. They will be dealt with in the Terracotta Appendices 1 and 2 together with their stratigraphic data.

Period I

Period I, comprising the Painted Grey Ware Levels 40 to 37, is devoid of any human terracotta figurines. The only figurative terracottas found in these levels are the two fragments of bulls registered under ANIMAL FIGURINES.

Period II. Figurines from Levels 37 to 29

These levels cover the span from the earliest Maurya time up to the late Śuṅga Cultural Phase. Altogether 75 usable fragments of human terracotta figurines can be assigned to this period. Of them, 38 objects have been found in secure spots of the stratified levels and can, therefore, be accepted as evidence for chronological purposes. Five more pieces lying in the immediate vicinity of ditches have not been counted as stratified finds although they presumably can be taken as "clean". The remaining objects came from spots in later levels or were registered as stray finds, all of them, consequently, out of context. As the stratified fragments, however, convey specific stylistic features it is in most of the cases of unstratified pieces possible to assign them convincingly to stratified types.

With the exception of one demonic face and a few early fragments of indistinct male figures the bulk of heads and busts depict females. There is no reason to enter the discussion whether the free-standing female figurines of the Maurya to Śuṅga periods from Mathura represent the Mother Goddess (who is Aditi) or whomsoever. As there are no specimens carrying a child in the arm, they are just females without any other distinctive marks. The more so, as mostly the head or the body is preserved. The often rich ornamentation of the head and body rather suggests a character of beauty, as e.g. with *Surasundarīs*. It is, therefore, expedient to name these fragments of figures simply as females.

The four early fragments of male figures (nos. 1, 3, 4 and perhaps 5) together with the assigned pieces (nos. 4a–d) are interesting specimens because terracotta male figurines are rather rare in the early phase of this period. Inspite of the differing facial features, they share, as far as preserved, two stylistic marks: 1) a bulge of (cloth or wreath-covered) hair on the left side of the head, anticipating perhaps the turban, and 2) a tight fitted collar around the neck (esp. so in nos. 4a, c–d; cp. also the demonic male head of no. 2).

Much more helpful sources for the determination of a stylistic development in the terracotta art of this period are the fragments of female figures. There is no reason to doubt the emergence of two main types of female figurines succeeding each other within the levels 36 to 30 at Sonkh. The transition from the one to the other type, to be distinguished mainly by the shape and facial features of the figures' heads, came about step by step. While the first type is to be found overlapping with the new one, the second type develops within the levels 33 to 31. In chronological terms, the types belong 1) to the Maurya period, and 2) to the Śuṅga Cultural Phase (Śuṅga C. P.) of Sonkh, although the stylistic change need not to coincide with the change of the historic dynasties.

Before describing the essential features of the two main types of the female heads in this period II of Sonkh a few remarks on the singular figure no. 6 are necessary. The "beak" type of female figures is generally accepted as the earliest type of terracottas from Mathura, often dated as pre-Maurya. The fragment no. 6 has been found in a later level at Sonkh and can, consequently, not be used as chronological evidence. However, there is little doubt that from the point of technique and material this type has to be placed at the beginnings of Maurya terracotta art.

The fragments of the terracotta figures of this period are, as a rule, of grey colour and show very often a black slip. In this early phase, another colour (red or brown) is to be found only with the heads which have been made for decorative purposes, e.g. for attaching it on the shoulder of a vessel (no. 15). With the appearence of terracotta plaques and, more obvious, at the end of the Śuṅga Cultural Phase the brown-red varieties are increasing.

The *Maurya type of female heads* is documented in nos. 7, 10, 13, 14, 15 and 16. Although different in details, partly caused by the varying functions of the head, a considerable number of identical marks can be established here. In all the specimens the face and hair with pearl-chain is moulded on a hand-made clay-base. In case of an elaborate head-dress, the single parts (like rosettes, streamers etc.) are, as a rule, moulded separately and applied after the impression of the face. The head with its decoration ends in a tenon going to be inserted into the hand-modelled body. The neck-joint between head and body is in most of the pieces luted with clay or covered with a tight-fitted collar. This method is, of course, not applicable to heads which are produced for decorative purposes only.

It is the moulded face with hair-dress alone that gives the type its characteristic marks, which are: 1) a long-drawn face with high cheek-bones and narrow chin, 2) almond-shaped eyelids, 3) unmarked arched brow-ridges, 4) comparatively small mouth with no vertical folds at its corners, and 5) middle-parted hair decorated with a two-stringed pearl-chain. This combination of marks was binding for a long time, not only for the heads of the female figurines but also for those used for decorative purposes. The additional head-decorations could change. The ear-rings could be made single or double, and in case the general fashion of a big rosette on top and a circle of rosettes around the head (nos. 10, 10a) or one streamer each beside the face (nos. 12–14) was followed, the way for more and even excessive adornment was open. A remarkable change is heralded in the nos. 16 and 17, where two of the six regularly used characteristic marks underwent an interesting modification: Instead of the middle-parted hair the obligate pearl-string is arranged in an angular way as if to serve as a substitute for the parted coiffure. What looks like a simple alteration of details turns out to be a transitional step compared with no. 18 and the following group. From now on the pearl-string is always angularly arranged.

The just mentioned no. 18 is an extremely noteworthy find because it is 1) the only and earliest plaque among all terracotta fragments of this period, and it contains 2) the earliest depiction of a completely new facial type of female, as represented in all round-modelled terracotta heads from now on.

The face of the elder female in no. 18 shows a shape quite different from that of the preceding type. Its contours are best described when compared with an egg the broad side of which marks the chin. The stratified heads nos. 19, 20, 22, 26, and 28, all displaying such egg-shaped face, turn out to represent as distinctive a type of its own as the preceding Maurya version.

Technically these heads are produced differently. Not only the faces but also the complete decorations around the head are now, as a rule, moulded. There are only few exceptions (see e.g. the description of no. 24). The practice of joining the moulded head to the hand-made body is the same as with the preceding type.

Although head and decoration are moulded in full, the characteristic marks of this type, i.e. the *type of the Śuṅga Cultural Phase*, are again hidden in the face and hair-part, which are 1) an egg-shaped face with broad cheeks, 2) an additional browline between upper eyelid and brow-ridge, 3) clear vertical folds beside the corners of the thick-lipped mouth (laughing folds?), 4) hair not middle-parted but showing a rectangular cut on the forehead, 5) the obligate double pearl-string arranged angularly, being tangential to the upper part of the head.

As in the Maurya type, the additional head-decorations are topped with a relatively big rosette (missing in nos. 19–22) and are, as a rule, encircling the head with decorative discs (nos. 19–21) or framing it with streamers descending to the ears (nos. 22–23). The variant with adorned streamers (no. 23) indicates by its protuberant lateral bulges and the clear central position of the rosette on top of the head an unmistakable step towards a tripartite head-dress so fancifully developed in the female terracotta plaques of the following period. It also becomes obvious in no. 24 which in addition shows first alterations of the characteristic marks: the rectangular hair-cut is absent, the pearl-strings are arranged more angular and punctured brows, placed directly on the brow-ridge, are introduced. With this type the free-standing, generally grey-coloured human, esp. female figures of the early terracotta period disappear, the technique of red/brown terracotta plaques predominates from now on.

1. Hand-made head of a male figure of bluish grey colour with applied strands of hair and moustache and incised beard. This is a stylistically unique specimen of early Indian terracotta art from a stratigraphically flawless find-spot (Level 34). The long-drawn head is crowned by a lateral bulge on its left, likely a cloth-covered chignon. A strand of hair, splitted in two on the top of the head is applied in slanting lines along the edge of the bulge. The wings of the dominant nose are stretching from cheek to cheek. The eyes and brows are carefully incised, leaving the eyeballs flat, thus creating an impression of blindness. The ears or ear-studs show wedge-like cuts. Mouth and chin are broken away, but the remains of an applied, upwards twirled moustache as well as of a beard incised in wavy lines are visible at the sides. The neck, or tenon in place of neck for fixing the head is attached in an astonishingly oblique position. Thus the chin was either turned up in some sort of arrogant posture or the head was a decorative part of a vessel or any other object.
H. 8.0 cm. Colour: Bluish grey. No. So I 378.
Find-spot: 2 IV 6.0/Cc 2.3, H. 15.80 m.
Early Maurya. L.34

2. Head and fragmentary bust of a demon. Moulded face on hand-made figure. Deep-sunk circular eyes and flattened nose in monkey-like face above the broad grinning mouth. Around the back of the head the worn remains of some sort of hood are visible. A tight-fitting rounded collar decorated with punched dots is applied to the neck.
The symmetric projection below the collar raises doubt if the head is really a part of a human body.
H. 7.5 cm. Colour: red-slipped. No. So I 206.
FS. 3 I 10.0/Ca 14.7, H. 16.55 m. Maurya. L.33

3. Moulded female (or male?) face on hand-made patch of clay. Finely shaped face with prominent nose and mouth but deep-set eye-socket. Lenticular eyelids frame the pricked eyeballs below hard-edged browbone. On the head two bulges arise representing presumably the bipartite hair in cloth-covered chignons. The bigger one above the left ear is tied by a ribbon indicated by a grooved curved line. There are no traces of ears. The back is unmodelled. As the neck projects backwards it is safe to assume that the head was attached to the shoulder of a vessel.
H. 3.9 cm. Colour: grey. No. So I 209.
FS.3 I 8.5/Ca 18.3, H. 16.42 m. Maurya. L.33

4. Bust of hand-made male figure with angular face of the "beak"-type, i.e. the nose ridge is formed by pinching the cheeks. The mouth is absent, the eyes are indicated by grooved circles with central point for the pupil. The cloth-covered hair (?) is spread like a saddle on the head with a protuberance on the left side, consisting of a mass of hair bound by a punch-marked ribbon or its own plait. From the hair-ball and the opposite edge of the "saddle" a loop is hanging down as if covering the ears. To the clumsy neck a tight-fitting collar is applied decorated with one line of stamped circlets. The arms are projecting horizontally from the shoulders but bent in the elbows; the forearms are missing.
H. 6.9 cm. Brownish with olive slip. No. So I 93.
FS. 2 I 18.0/Bd 18.5, H. 19.90 m. Trench 4.
Late Maurya

a) Torso of a male figure with tight-fitting collar and horizontally extended arms. Grey. Similar to above.
Ht. 3.0 cm. So III A 3007. FS. 2 IV 7.0/Be 15.5, H. 18.00 m.
b) Mutilated fragment of similar type.
Ht. 5.3 cm. Colour: Brown. No. So III A 3582.
FS. 2 IV 15.5/Cc 3.0, H. 16.00–15.85 m.
c) Torso of male figure similar to above.
Ht. 10.9 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 976.
FS.2 V 13.05/Cb 19.67, H. 22.87 m. Out of context.
d) Fragment of a male figure of similar type. Head turned sideways, looking over right shoulder.
Ht. 8.6 cm. Grey, black-slipped. No. So I 141.
FS. 2 IV 1.25/Cb 4.55, H. 23.8 m. Out of context.

5. Bust of a male or female figure. Face moulded on hand-made head-part of body. Slim long-drawn face with narrow chin and broad eyes framed by lenticular eyelids. The forehead is adorned with a single pearl. In the middle, the head is covered with pearl strings. At the sides, cloth-covered bulges take up the mass of

hair. To the left, a turban-like ribbon is wound around both the protuberances from which a loop is hanging down, missing now on the right. The face is moulded as if inclined to the side. In the front, the neck was adorned with a collar preserved only fragmentally. The arms, now mostly missing, were extended horizontally. The back is unmodelled.
Ht. 6.9 cm. Colour: grey, traces of black slip.
No. So I 95. FS. 2 I 17.45/Bd 16.1, H. 19.95 m.
Trench 4. Late Maurya

6. Unstratified fragment of a hand-modelled female figure with damaged animal-like face, rhombic eyes, circular mark on the forehead and three patches of hair falling down on the front. Above the round breasts remains of a collar consisting of applied dented pieces of clay are visible from which a band hangs down, covered at its end by a broader, decorated string running from the shoulder towards the middle of the body. On the back, the hair is indicated by three parallel appliqué strands adorned with punched circlets.
H. 7.8 cm. Colour: light grey. No. So I 133.
FS. 2 V 9.85/Ca 10.65, H. 23.45 m.
As the fragment was found in a later stratum it cannot be dated stratigraphically. From the point of technique it has to belong to the early Mauryan period.

7. Head of a female figure with moulded face and typical features, as small mouth, lenticular eyelids without marked eyebrows, middle-parted hair covered by two strings of pearls. The ears are chipped off. On the hand-made piece of neck and body a collar is indicated by four grooved horizontal lines with three pendants. No remains of an adorning hood. The back of the head is kneaded round.
H. 5.2 cm. Colour: grey, black slip. No. So I 277.
FS. 3 I 6.5/Ca 16.8, H. 16.50 m. Maurya. L.33

8. Female head of the same type and technique as no. 7. The neck ends in a tenon to be inserted into the hand-made body. Ears missing as with no. 7.
H. 5.2 cm. Grey, traces of black slip. No. So III A 3665.
FS. 2 III 10.65/Cc 2.9, H. 18.45 m. Out of context.

9. Female head. With the exception of the preserved huge double ear-rings of much the same type and technique as no. 7. On the head, just behind the obligate two strings of pearls traces of four ornaments (rosettes?) are visible. Under the decorated neck the tenon for the insertion of the head into the body is preserved. The back of the head is modelled in the round.
H. 5.0 cm. Grey with black slip. No. So I 188.
FS. 2 IV 8.5/Cb 3.0, H. 22.40 m.
Find-spot out of context. On the analogy of no. 7 to be classified as Mauryan.

a) Head of a female figure of the above type with two rosettes separately applied vertically behind pearl strings above middle-parted hair.
H. 5.2 cm. Colour: grey with traces of black slip.
No. So I 210. FS. 2 V 19.8/Ca 16.3, H. 22.00 m.
Out of context.
b) Mutilated fragment of head and bust of a female figure of the above type.
H. 6.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2731.
FS. 2 IV 2.8/Ca 19.7 , H. 22.56 m. Out of context.
c) Face of a female figure of the above type.
H. 4.0 cm. Colour: grey. No. So I 64. Surface find.
d) Head of female figure of the above type. Neck runs out in a tenon.
H. 6.1 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3666.
FS.2 III 13.2/Cc 5.8, H. 18.70 m. Out of context.

10. Fragment of head and bust of a female figure. Typical face (as described above) moulded on head-base of hand-made body. Huge double ear-rings. Hood squeezed to front. Former ornamental application now chipped off, leaving five fracture marks. Head-part stuck with tenon into body. Broad, clay-smeared neck. Horizontally arranged collar of vertically grooved patches indicating beads. Stumps of arms slightly curved downwards.
H. 7.2 cm. Grey, black-slipped. No. So I 364.
FS.2 IV 14.1/Cc 6.95, H. 15.68 m. Maurya. L.33

a) Head of female figure of the above type. Ornamentation preserved as a wreath of six plus one central rosettes.
H. 6.1 cm. Colour: grey. No. So I 121.
FS.2 V 12.4/Ca 17.1, H. 23.25 m. Out of context.

11. Unstratified worn head of a female figure with described Mauryan features, showing pricked lines in the clay base above and to the sides of the head, serving as hold for ornamental applications.
H. 3.9 cm. Grey, black slipped. No. So I 244.
FS. Ditch in 2 V 12.9/Cc 7.3, H 20.64 m.
On the analogy of no. 10 and previous Mauryan heads this has to be dated to the Mauryan period.

12. Mutilated head and bust of a female figure with the long-drawn face, lenticular eyelids below unmarked browbow, middle-parted hair and horizontally arranged double pearl strings of the Mauryan type. In this type long streamers are impressed to the sides of the head, inclined towards a central rosette on top. The streamers in this piece are both ornamented with punched circlets. To the side of the right streamer (seen from front) remains of an additional decoration (here a single rosette) is visible, as is the case with all specimens of this streamer type. The streamers can be added by direct punching on the clay-ground, as done here, or by application of separately moulded bands and rosettes (see nos. 13,14). The neck is in front adorned by a collar, the decoration of which is worn.
H. 9.0 cm. Grey, black slipped. No. So I 355.
FS. 2 IV 16.1/Cc 0.9, H. 16.35 m. Mauryan. L. 32

a) Worn head of similar type as above. The additional decoration on the right consists of a lotus rosette and a pearl disc.
H. 6.6 cm. Grey, traces of black slip. No. So I 80.
FS. 2 IV 7.57/Ca 7.06, H. 25.80 m. Out of context.
b) Weathered head as above. With additional rosettes as a).
H. 7.2 cm. Grey, black slipped. No. So III A 3184.
Ditch-find in 2 IV 2.1/Cc 3.3. Out of context.
c) Mutilated head of above type. Collar of wheel-like discs.
H. 7.6 cm. Grey, traces of black slip. No. So I 104.
FS. 2 IV 6.6/Ca 2.35, H. 24.55 m. Out of context.
d) Head without hood decoration. Collar of vertically grooved patches (= beads). On back, remains of hair plaits.
H. 7.5 cm. Grey, traces of black slip. No. So I 271.
FS. 2 V 5.3/Ca 11.8, H. 19.50 m. Out of context.

13. Head of a female figure with moulded face of Mauryan features on hand-made hood carrying profuse ornamentation. Originally one long streamer each was applied to the sides of the face, crossing the large single ear-discs. The one on the right side is now chipped off. But part of the lotus rosette on top and the entire other streamer is preserved. They are separately moulded and applied. The band shows double-circlets with central pricks in two rows. The additional decoration on the preserved side con-

sists of two flower rosettes combined with foliage, arranged as if bound in a bunch and separately fastened beside and behind the streamer. The heavy embellishment is completed by an extremely broad collar showing the same ornaments as the streamer. On the back the smeared spot of fastening the bunch is visible beside tripartite hair-braids indicated by parallel strands parted by incised lines and decorated with punched circlets.
H. 6.9 cm. Grey with black slip. No. So III A 1882.
FS. 2 IV 11.7/Cc 4.0, H. 15.75 m. Maurya. L.33/32

14. Head of a female figure with moulded face as before. Double ear-rings. Streamer on the side of the right ear. Opposite decoration and top rosette lost. The separately moulded and applied streamer is showing the same circlets as no. 13 but without central prick. From above, two ribbons ending in hooks descend. The collar consists of bead-like patches decorated with punched circles. On the back a bipartite plait with incised geometric pattern and a fluttering ribbon is applied.
H. 6.8 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 407.
FS. 2 IV 10.92/Cc 2.55, H. 15.90 m. Maurya. L.32

15. Head of a female figure with the long-drawn moulded Mauryan face, i.e. lenticular eyelids below browless ridge and middle-parted hair under two pearl strings. On top and at the back clay is kneaded on and around the head indicating that no applications have been used. The neck is formed by a hollow projection with wheel-marks inside. The head therefore formed part of a vessel.
H. 5.8 cm. Light brown, dark-brown slip. No. So I 122.
FS. Filling of trench 4.
Although out of context, on analogy to nos. 7 and 13–14 the facial features permit the dating to the Maurya period.

16. Female head with long-drawn moulded face, lenticular shaped eyelids, punched eyeballs and dotted brows. Instead of middle-parted hair angular arrangement of the obligate two pearl strings. Fragment of applied streamer with moulded circlets above right ear. Ears partly chipped off.
H. 5.3 cm. Grey, black-slipped. No. So I 185.
FS. 2 IV 7.8/Cc 3.6, H. 16.50 m. Late Maurya. L.31

17. Unstratified head of a female figure similar to no. 16. Again angular arrangement of the two pearl strings instead of middle-parted hair. Ears and presumably decorated hood broken away. Notable collar consisting of three broad patches with stamped dots fitted in front of neck.
H. 5.2 cm. Grey, black slip. No. So I 162.
FS. 2 V 19.0/Ca 17.9, H. 22.70 m.
Out of context. On the analogy of no. 16: late Maurya

18. Earliest moulded terracotta plaque from Sonkh. Upper half of a female accompanied by a girl. Egg-shaped face of the woman, stamped rhombic eyelids with convex dot of pupil. Angularly arranged pearl string on hair (in the angularity comparable to nos. 16–17). Similar pearl strings fluttering as streamers around the head. On top voluminous flowery boss with dented marks. On right ear a roundish bulge indicating, for the first time, a trefoil form of woman's head-dress. The ear-discs are placed in different positions, i.e. frontal and sideways. The collar consists of a single string of pearls (*Ekāvalī*). The round breasts have grooved nipples. The girl on the woman's left stands breast to breast as if holding right arm around her back and being herself embraced by the woman. The face is worn but shows same rhombic eyes as the older female. Small ear-discs and an incompletely moulded pearl-collar adorn the figure. Above the mass of hair the coiffure ends in a funny bow. The back of the plaque is plain.
One may see in this pair mother and daughter, but it is certainly not mother and child in the sense of a mother goddess. From the stylistic point of view the egg-shape of the head with the broader side below is an important change, heralding the facial type of the Śuṅga Cultural Phase.
H. 7.2 cm. Colour: light brown with brown slip.
No. So I 213. FS. 3 I 12.0/Ca 14.3, H. 16.35 m.
Late Maurya/Early Śuṅga C. P., L.33/32

19. Head of a female figure. Face and head-dress completely moulded. Broad egg-shaped face with new characteristic features: full cheeks, vertical folds to the sides of the mouth, eyebrows placed between upper lid and brow-ridge, rectangular cut in the hair on the forehead and angular arrangement of the double pearl string. The latter being tangent to the upper part of head and ending below in a pendant-like circlet with central convex dot in height of the eyes. The head-dress is formed by four rosettes placed in a semicircle around the hair. In this type three of the rosettes are similar, showing punched dots only while the second to the left is shaped as a full-blown flower. The neck ends in a tenon for fixing the head on a hand-modelled body.
H. 7.4 cm. Colour: grey with black slip.
No. So I 211. FS. 3 I 9.8/Ca 14.9, H. 16.35 m.
Early Śuṅga C. P., L.33/32

20. Head of a female made from a perfectly similar mould as no. 19. Exactly the same features.
H. 5.8 cm. Colour: grey, black-slipped.
No. So I 266. FS. 3 I 6.5/Ca 8.2, H. 16.80 m.
Śuṅga C. P., L.32/31

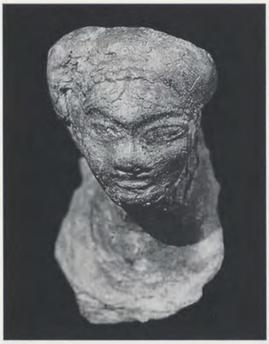
21. Head of a female figure similar to nos. 19–20. Head ornaments partly broken away.
H. 5.1 cm. Grey, black-slipped. No. So I 149.
FS. 2 IV 11.35/Ca 0.65, H. 23.20 m. Out of context.

a) Mutilated head of same type of female figure.
H. 7.6 cm. Colour: grey-brown.
No. So I 68. FS. Filling

22. Head with mutilated head-dress of a female figure. Moulded. Face of the type described in no. 19. Ornamentation of head-dress different from nos. 19–21. The head was encircled by streamers decorated with punched circlets filled with convex dots.
H. 5.5 cm. Brownish, with traces of burning.
No. So I 267. FS. 3 I 5.7/Ca 12.2, H. 17.00 m.
Śuṅga Cultural Phase.

23. Unstratified specimen of female head similar to no. 22. To the sides of the characteristic Śuṅgan head full streamers with circlets like those in the preceding piece are preserved. The needle-strokes at the lateral bulges give the streamers the look of peacock feathers but in comparison with nos. 24–25 one has to identify the bulges as masses of hair. Above the head remains of a decorated central boss are visible. A knobbed disc is fastened to the right ear.
The streamers with the striped bulges together with the boss on top form a clear trefoiled head-dress as anticipated already in no. 18.
H. 7.6 cm. Colour: grey.
No. So I 47. FS. Filling. N. E. tower.

24. Unstratified head of a female figure of Śuṅgan type showing remarkable changes in stylistic details and technique. As to the face, the eyebrows are marked by conspicuous dotted lines fitted directly to the brow ridge. Secondly, the rectangular hair-cut on



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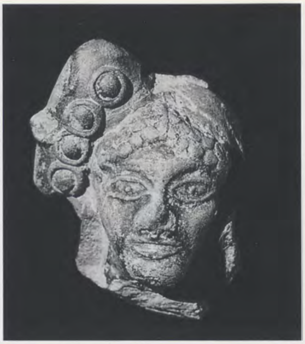

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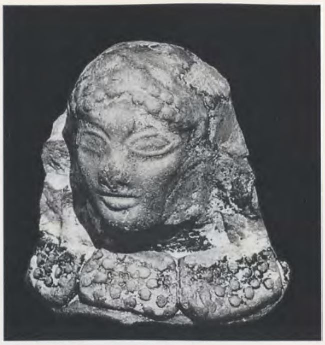

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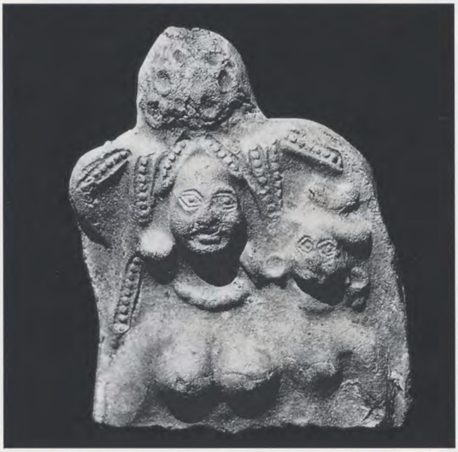

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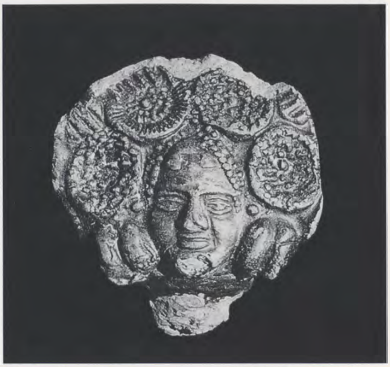

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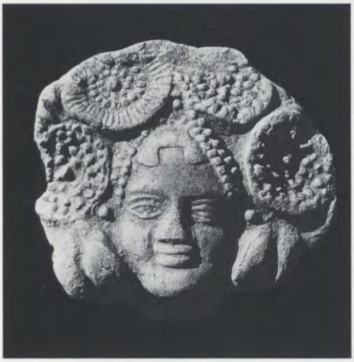

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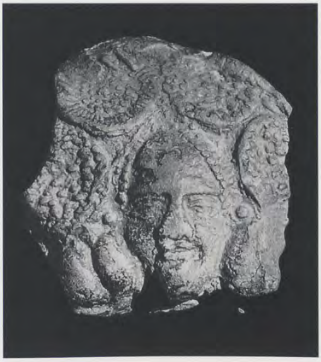

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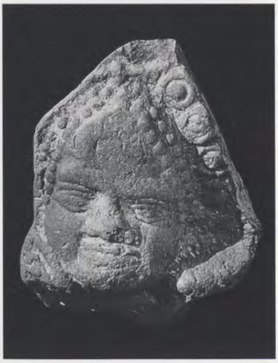

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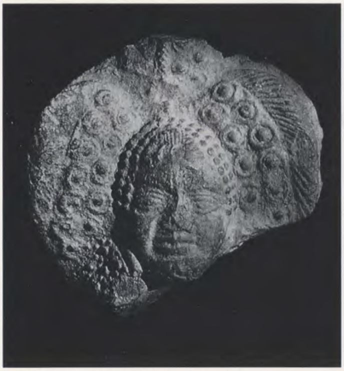
Terracotta Human Figurines. Period II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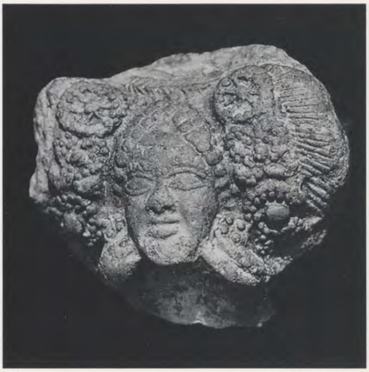
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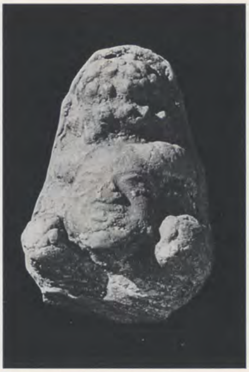
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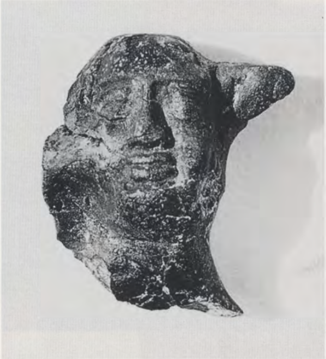
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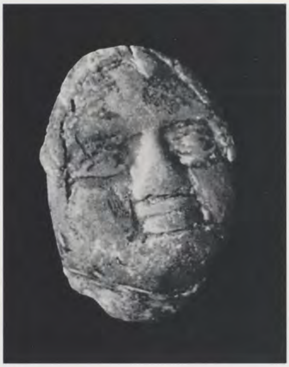
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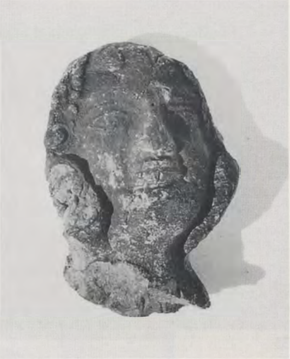
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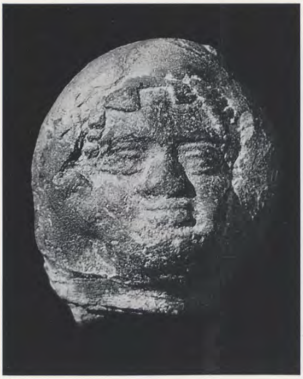
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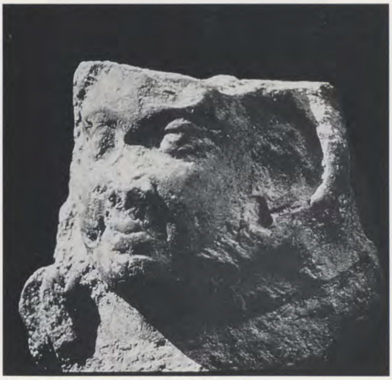
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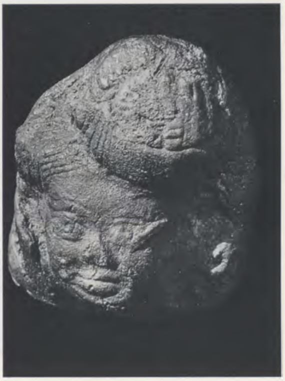
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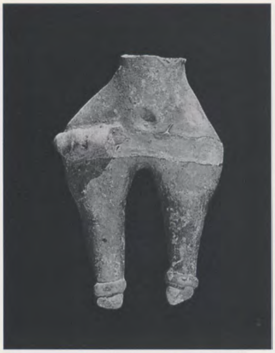
Terracotta Human Figurines. Period II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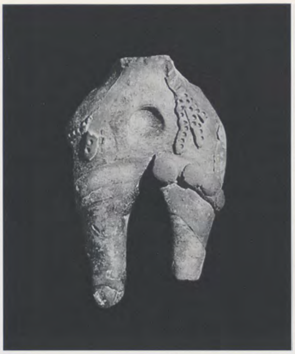
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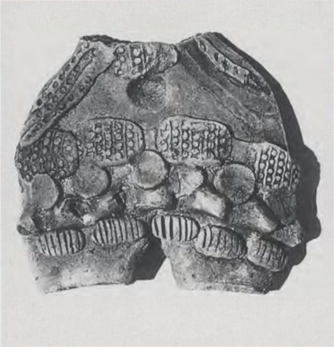
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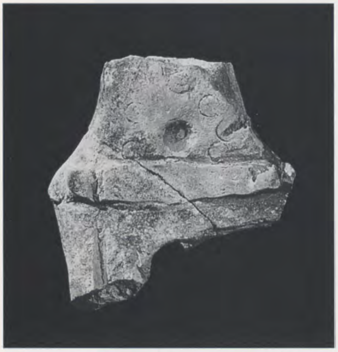
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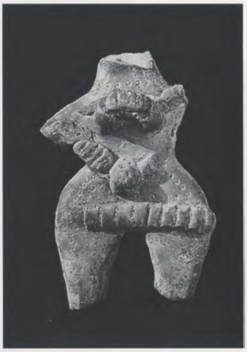
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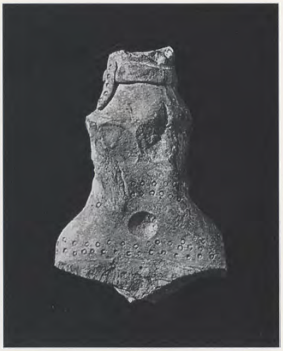
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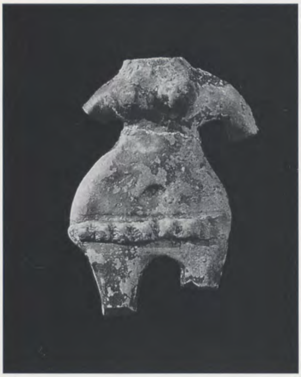
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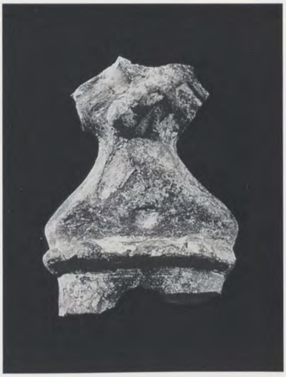
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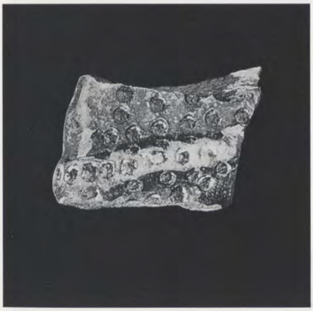
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Terracotta Human Figurines. Period II

59. Fragment of a male rider with hand-made body in the round. Left arm broken off, the right one bent forward in horizontal position. Cavity between thighs. Moulded face much simpler than in no. 58. Eyes punched, mouth grooved like a horizontal stroke. Hair gathered up, in front adorned with a small diadem.
H. 7.5 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So I 242.
FS. 3 I 8.6/Ca 12.6, H. 18.20 m. Mitra. L.27

a) Torso of a rider. Cavity between thighs extends as deep cleft up to the stomach.
H. 5.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3345.
FS. 2 IV 13.5/Cc 2.0, H. 16.90 m. Mitra. L.28/27
b) Fragment of a rider. Blackened by fire. Tight collar (punched with circles?) around neck. Left arm lost.
H. 6.5 cm. Red-brown, blackened. No. So III A 2326.
FS. 3 I 6.2/Ca 10.0, H. 17.70 m. Early Mitra. L.28
c) Fragment of armless rider with moulded face as no. 58.
H. 7.2 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 3047.
FS. 2 V 19.2/Cb 9.0, H. 17.90 m. Mitra. L.27
d) Fragment of headless rider. Stumps of arms extended straight forward. Thighs spread.
H. 4.7 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3519.
FS. 2 V 19.1/Cb 3.3, H. 17.70 m. Mitra. L.27
e) Fragment of a rider. Head and thighs chipped off, arms stretched forward.
H. 6.7 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 3700.
FS. 2 V 14.2/Cc 7.7, H. 17.90 m. Mitra. L.27
f) Torso of a rider. Long body. Cavity between hips damaged.
H. 6.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3452.
FS.2 V 17.3/Cb 9.5, H. 18.00–17.80 m. Mitra. L.27
g) Fragment of a rider. Surface weathered.
H. 5.1 cm. Colour: reddish. No. So III A 194.
Surface find.
h) Fragment of a rider with well preserved moulded face and turban. Bent arms broken off from the elbows.
H. 8.0 cm. Colour: reddish. No. So I 46.
FS. Filling north-east tower

60. Worn head of a rider. Face and turban as in no. 58.
H. 2.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3274.
FS. 2 V 17.2/Cb 4.9, H. 17.97 m. Mitra. L.27

a) Partly mutilated head of a rider. Face of the type of no. 59.
H. 3.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 12.
FS. Trench 1, E 36, H. 18.20 m. Stratigraphy uncertain.

Couples

61. Upper part of a plaque showing a couple set in architectural frame. Above, a caitya arch on flat ground is depicted. The nearly semicircular structure ends, in its outer contour line, pointed, or merges with a finial. At the lowest end the arch is slanting, perhaps just to join the partly wrong set door jambs. Below the arch seven wooden rafters with rectangular cross-sections are outlined. Under this portal a couple is, presumably, standing in the door opening. The two persons are given in some sort of three-quarter profile, turned to each other, holding hands. The man is on the left, the woman on the right side. The male's head-dress consists of a turban with lateral bulge, adorned with upstanding lotus buds (cp. male in no. 62). He wears a tight collar and arm-rings. The woman, even more defaced than the man, seems to have a cloth-covered hair-do and a long ear-pendant ending in a big jewel in the left ear.
H. 7.0 cm. Grey-brown, red-brown slip. No. So I 383.
FS. 2 V 5.0/Cc 2.7, H. 17.80 m. Mitra. L.27

62. Standing couple. Badly moulded plaque showing a female to left, a male to right. The woman stands frontally, the man is turned slightly towards her holding a twig in his left hand raised up to his breast (cp. no. 63, man to left). One or two leaves of the twig hang down to the left of the woman's head. Both the arms of the female are lowered to the girdle. She wears a tripartite head-dress consisting, so far as visible, of two voluminous lateral bulges topped with a flower(?). As the lower part of the faces and the surface of both the bodies are heavily disfigured by misleading folds in the clay, the garments and finer adornments can not accurately be described. The woman is presumably clad in a sari and wearing a short necklace, bracelets, girdle and anklets. As to the man, only the head is better moulded, wearing a rather unusual head-dress, similar to a turban adorned with three lotus buds (cp. the Mathura Museum's specimen MM 2383 in V. S. Agrawala 1984: pl. XI, fig. 36, p. 31, and MM 61.5227 in: R. C. Sharma 1971: fig. VIII).
H. 12.4 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So I 297.
FS. 3 I 1.2/Cb 8.7, H. 18.00 m. Mitra. L.27

63. Small fragment of a plaque with remnants of a couple. Unlike no. 62 here the male is standing to the left, the woman to the right side. Again the woman is shown frontal and the male turned towards her. His right arm is bent, holding a twig in the hand. He seems to be clad in a dhotī, the preserved part of which is held by a girdle from which a loop (half of it broken away) and a tassel-like ribbon hang down. The woman, visible from back to right knee only, is adorned with a long necklace, a band around the extremely narrow waist and a three-stringed beaded girdle. Both arms are lowered, the left hand holding the shawl(?) which is floating over her legs, the right just spreading the fingers. The back of the fragment is unmodelled.
This piece is of poor quality but represents stylistic features to be met with only in the levels 27 to 25, as there are: flat carving, thin extremities etc.
H. 5.0 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So I 296.
FS. 2 V 12.7–13.7/Ca 1.8–3.4, H. 18.40–18.05 m.
Mitra. L.27

a) Small weather-worn fragment of a plaque showing a couple. Man to left, woman to right.
H. 4.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3241.
FS. 2 IV 14.0/Cc 9.4, H. 18.10 m. Mitra. L.26
b) Leg-part of a plaque with couple. Man to right, woman to left. Man turned right towards frontally standing female.
H. 3.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3228.
FS. 2 V 14.1/Cb 11.5, H. 18.90 m. Late Mitra. L.25
c) Small fragment of a plaque with woman from a couple. Hands lowered to two-stringed beaded girdle. Fingers spread.
H. 4.2 cm. Colour: grey-brown. No. So III A 1684.
FS. 3 I 6.5/Ca 14.9, H. 19.50–18.68 m. Mitra. L.26

64. Weathered fragment of a hollow figurine of a couple. Made from two moulds for back and front respectively. Woman sitting on the left thigh of the man whose arm embraces her. His right hand seems to rest on her right thigh. Left hand of the female presumably touching her left hip. Details of dress and ornaments widely worn. He wears a longer necklace, she a narrow collar. Two strands of hair hang down on her back. The couple is sitting on a hollow pedestal mostly broken away now.
H. 10.0 cm. Colour: yellow-brown with whitish slip.
No. So I 259. FS. 3 I 5.2/Ca 7.4, H. 17.50 m. Mitra.
The find spot of no. 64 suggests a date as early as level 29, but in this case the author is rather sceptical about it. However this may be, the piece can not be earlier than Level 26 but belongs, of course, to Period III. A com-

plete figurine similar to this type in the Mittal Museum, Hyderabad, is dated wrongly to the Kuṣāṇa period.

a) Fragment of hollow pedestal with remains of legs of a couple as no. 64.
H. 7.0 cm. Brown, traces of whitish slip. No. So III A 3533.
FS. 2 V 9.45/Cb 14.5, H. 18.55 m. Mitra. L.26

65. Weatherworn head-part of a loving couple. Use of double-mould. Details of faces and head-dress too shabby to be accurately described. The male (left) was wearing a *jaṭā*-like coiffure decorated with small rosettes at the sides, the female's hair seems to have been curly.
H. 4.5 cm. Brownish, traces of white slip. No. So I 373.
FS. 2 V 10.3/Cc 12.8, H. 18.50 m. Mitra. L.26

Miscellaneous Figures

66. Mutilated plaque showing a male musician with a lute. Unfortunately the surface of the figure is abraded from face to foot-stand, so that the details are difficult to describe. The head-dress seems to consist of a turban with a flower-bud in the centre. Heavy and broad ear-pendants are visible above the shoulders. The man stands with left leg bent on a pedestal. The garment is wound around the right leg and covers the left only loosely. Between the legs two tasseled shawl-ends hang down. The man holds the right arm bent, the movement of the left one is not clear: it looks as if it is lowered along the body up to the elbow grasping a five-stringed instrument with the hand. A sharp line crossing the body indicates some sort of a sash hanging from the right shoulder to the left knee. The back of the plaque is flat. *Compare V. S. Agrawala 1955–56: fig. 6.*
H. 10.0 cm. Colour: brown, red slip. No. So I 351.
FS. 2 III 19.6/Cc 0.8, H. 18.80 m. Mitra. L.26.
Belonging presumably to L.27

a) Lower part of a plaque with leg-position as in no. 66. Figure standing on pedestal, left leg bent, two tasselled shawl-ends hanging down between the legs.
H. 5.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2950.
FS. 2 IV 7.2/Be 17.0, H. 20.05 m. Mitra. L.27/26

67. Upper part of a plaque showing the bust of a male figure with hands in *añjali*. The man wears a turban, heavy ear-jewels and a tight collar. To the side of his head a lotus rosette with neatly depicted petals is visible, below it a flower-stalk(?) horizontally bent upwards at the edge of the plaque. Back flat.
H. 5.8 cm. Red, with whitish spots. No. So I 354.
FS. 2 IV 19.2/Ca 9.3, H. 18.55 m. Mitra. L.27/26

68. Fragmentary plaque showing head and bust of a male figure with a goat's head having projecting horns. The only adornment visible is a double-stringed necklace. The right side of the plaque is lost; as the upper edge is not curving down it is possible that more than one figure was depicted.
H. 4.5 cm. Colour: yellow-brown. No. So III A 2027.
FS. 3 I 2.0/Ca 18.3, H. 13.50 (in ring-well). Mitra. L.26

69. Fragment of a headless human figure shown from behind. The well-shaped back is naked up to the two-stringed girdle. The figure is obviously squatting. The left arm is bent, perhaps carrying something in the hands.
H. 7.2 cm. Colour: brown, sandy. No. So III A 3668.
FS. 2 V 17.5/Cc 2.2, H. 18.30 m. Mitra. L.26

Three-legged Figures

It is known that human terracotta figurines, not only in India, were occasionally provided with a third leg to serve as a support. In Sonkh a number of specimens of female and male figures with third leg has been found in the levels 28/27 to 26. Unfortunately, they are so much damaged and fragmentary that a stylistic classification is not possible.

70. Fragment of a three-legged female figure made in the round. Head, arms and right leg missing. Below the breasts the piece has been fractured. Around the hips traces of a girdle are visible. The third leg serves clearly as a support for the figure.
H. 9.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3252.
FS. 2 IV 12.3/Cc 1.2, H. 17.85 m. Mitra. L.27/26

a) Fragment of a three-legged female made in the round. Head, arms and legs broken away. Deep navel-pit, traces of applied girdle.
H. 8.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3537.
FS. 2 IV 10.6/Cc 1.5, H. 17.40 m. Mitra. L.28/27
b) Small fragment of a three-legged female figure. Strongly damaged.
H. 4.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3232.
FS. 2 IV 12.5/Cc 3.5, H. 18.25 m. Mitra. L.26/25
c) Fragment of a three-legged figure: third leg with part of body.
H. 6.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3320.
FS. 2 IV 11.25/Cc 4.5, H. 17.85 m. Mitra. L.27/26

71. Mutilated torso of a three-legged male figure. Slim body with projection of third leg on back. Necklace consisting of grooves and a chain of holes.
H. 7.4 cm. Colour: dark grey. No. So III A 3049.
FS. 2 V 19.0/Cb 6.0, H. 18.05 m. Mitra. L.27

72. Torso of a three-legged male figure. Remains of genitals, projection of third leg.
H. 9.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3676.
FS. 2 V 0.6/Cb 13.0, H. 18.97–18.80 m. Mitra. L.26

a) Torso of a three-legged male figure.
H. 7.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3073.
FS. 2 V 3.6/Ca 18.4,H. 18.97–18.80 m. Mitra. L.26

Phase 3: Figurines originating from Levels 26 to 24

Miscellaneous Figures

73. Mithuna plaque showing a male and a female figure standing side by side. The female is the left-hand figure of the pair. While the man is holding the woman with a firm grip of his left hand at her left arm she is caressing his chin with her right hand. This is done by her with a bodily gesture of seemingly coy refusal. She has curly hair and is adorned with ear-rings and anklets. The crosswise arranged ribbons with central jewel below her breasts seem to hold the artful wide-meshed apron which covers her body from hips to knees. The man is adorned with a double-stringed long necklace and heavy bracelets: the head-dress remains unclear. He is clad in a dhotī fastened round the waist and covering the legs in heavy vertical folds, in front of which two fillets of different length are hanging down from the knot. Below the left knee the garment is taken up triangularly, leaving a part of the leg free.
The two parts of this plaque have been found in different spots but they fit together perfectly.

H. 14.6 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So I 208.
FS. 3 I 9.8/Ca 8.8, H. 19.15 m.
3 I 5.5/Ca 15.5, H. 19.50 m. Late Mitra. L.25

74. Head and bust of a male figure on upper half of a plaque. The facial features, as narrow forehead, horizontal eyebrows, protruding eyes and tapering lower jaw, appear rather strange. The head-dress is a combination of hair-do on the one and crown(?) on the other side. The figure wears ear-rings, a flat necklace and armlets. The hand of the bent right arm holds(?) a bunch of flowers(?) above which a lotus rosette is filling the free space. The back of the plaque is flat.
H. 7.5 cm. Grey-brown, half-side red-slipped.
No. So I 224. FS. 3 I 2.4/Ca 17.5, H. 18.75 m.
Late Mitra/Early Kṣatrapa.
The find spot is on the rim of the ring-well of Level 26, not existing anymore in L.25, but stylistically one would prefer an origin in L.25/24, i.e. a few decades later.
When describing this fragment we had no access to the original object. Therefore a number of points remain undecided. It may be helpful to expose a few ambiguous details: 1) The head-dress seems to be intentionally divided in crown(?) and matted hair; 2) the central projection does not seem to be just a turban bulge. To see in it the head of a snake the body of which is winding on part of the head (left) is certainly very speculative; 3) the ear-rings are different; 4) the armlets show varying designs; 5) the position of the right hand and the connection with the flower bunch(?) is not clearly visible.

75. Upper part of a female. The face with its full, round cheeks is dominated by the straight, vertical nose, the horizontal eyebrows, protruding eyes between closed eyelids, and an extremely narrow forehead. The coiffure consists of matted locks parted in two halves and combed in separate directions. On the right side of the face a strand of hair is falling to the shoulder. It is not clear if the ear-rings differ but it looks like it. A two-stringed necklace is loosely hanging from the neck. *In the author's opinion the female was four-armed. The left two arms are broken away, the right ones are parting in the shoulder: the back arm is lowered beside the breast, the front arm extends diagonally across the body and seems to embrace something that she is pressing against her left shoulder. One of the left arms might have had supported this action. The author suggests to see in this figure the earliest depiction of the* Durgā Mahiṣāsuramardinī *because the object on the left shoulder looks like an animal's head with an open snout on the extreme edge of the piece. In case the interpretation is right, this would be a version preceding the Kuṣāṇa form where the goddess is strangling the* Mahiṣa's *neck with her left front arm only.*
H. 7.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 215.
FS. 3 I 0.5–2.0/Ca 9.5–11.5, H. 20.15–19.85 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

76. Lower part of a Yakṣa figure from waist to bottom. Made in the round, presumably using two moulds. The Yakṣa is standing frontal on a low pedestal, the right knee slightly bent, the right hand resting on the thigh, the left one touching the girdle. The pot-bellied figure is clad in a dhotī reaching down to the ankles and fastened with a girdle from the knot of which two fillets of different length dangle between the legs. There is a confusing line below the knees suggesting the hem of the garment, but there seems to be no doubt that the dhotī ends in the bulgy folds at the ankles. At the back the buttocks are shown under the continuing ribbon of the girdle.
H. 10.1 cm. Colour: light-brown. No. So I 313.
FS. 2 V 13.8/Cb 15.0, H. 18.90 m. Late Mitra. L.25

77. Fragment of a standing female made in the round by use of double-mould on a solid core of clay. Weatherworn part from waist to legs. Folds of garment to the side of left leg. Traces of a pearl-chain along hipline and flexure of the groin. Right arm lowered, hand holding or touching an unidentifiable object (or person). On the back, buttocks, legs and part of left arm are preserved. The figure was completely white-slipped.
H. 6.1 cm. Grey-brown, white slip. No. So I 372.
FS. 2 V 6.7/Cc 3.3, H. 18.85 m. Late Mitra. L.25

a) Fragment of human figure made by double-mould on solid core of clay. Part of lower legs.
H. 4.9 cm. Grey-brown, white slip. No. So III A 3457.
FS. 2 V 0.5/Cb 12.5, H. 18.85 m. Late Mitra. L.25
b) Weathered fragment of a couple made by double mould on solid core of clay. Legs only. Male figure to the right of female. Low pedestal.
H. 7.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2954.
FS. 2 V 8.5/Cb 5.3, H. 19.45 m.
Late Mitra/Early Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

78. Headless "Winged Female". Hand-made. The body has no arms and no legs, it ends flat and rounded below the waist. Where the arms should begin the clay is shaped in wing-like projections bent backwards. That the depiction of wings is intended is indicated by three horizontal strokes on the back, crossing a long vertical line along the spine. The break on the neck shows that the figure had a head. Above the breasts two sharp holes mark a perforation of the piece. One of the holes is visible penetrating into the back. A third hole takes the place of the navel. Assuming that all the three holes were perforating the body, this piece should have been used in hanging position.
H. 6.9 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So I 263.
FS. 2 V 12.8/Cb 5.7, H. 19.55 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.(24)/23

In the end of Period III first specimens of "Nude Dwarfs" appear. As this type is continuing for some time, the whole group is dealt with after Period VIII as Terracotta Appendix 1.

Period IV. Figurines from Levels 24 to 22

The levels 24 and 23 in the excavations at Sonkh contained structural remains and instructive finds of the Kṣatrapa period of Mathura. They represent a culture which is a mixture of indigenous (Indian) and foreign (Śaka) elements, best shown by the appearance of Kṣatrapa coins along with those of Rāmadatta of the Datta dynasty of Mathura, by the intermingling of Indian and foreign pottery shapes and by a seal impression carrying the name *Anaṅgabala* written twice, once in Brāhmī and once in Kharoṣṭhī characters on the same lump of clay.

While it looks as if the Kṣatrapas were quite ready to conform with new conditions of religious life and art, it is highly interesting to watch their perseverance in the faith of Mother Goddess and, along with it, in the preservation of the customary and presumably traditional figuration of Her which is quite different from all Indian Mother Goddess figurines known up to this period. The material from Sonkh comprises:

1. Fragments of rather crudely made but stylistically unmistakable female figures coming from and belonging to votive tanks equipped with seated Mother Goddesses (nos. 79–85), and
2. Fragments of seated solitary figures of a more sophisticated artistic mode (nos. 86–88).

The votive tank of no. 79 shows how the single figures of group 1 were originally placed in such a vessel. But this tank is of even greater importance. Its significance lies in the assemblage of the figures. Preserved are four females. Between the third and the fourth figure from the left the basic remains of a fifth one are clearly visible. On the missing opposite side two further women were seated. Therefore this tank contained at least seven *Mātṛkā* figures of the same type. It is not possible to decide whether the completely missing fourth side of the vessel was empty or occupied by another figure (sitting opposite the second woman from the left), but if so, then the total number of figures would be eight. As there is no doubt, whatsoever, that the women represent a group of Mother Goddesses, the object, therefore, has to be identified as a *saptamātṛkā* or *aṣṭamātṛkā* tank for domestic worship. A part of the pūjā must have consisted in placing food in each bowl of the goddesses. This representation reminds one involuntarily of the late-vedic food offerings to the gods.

The more artistic type of Mother Goddess came to light only in layers of the second phase of level 23 belonging to the end of the Kṣatrapa period in Sonkh. It is undoubtedly a later product than the more tribal Mother Goddesses of the votive tanks found in the earliest Kṣatrapa layers of levels 24/23. Although of poor artistic merits, the style is, as the specimens show, unmistakable and each figure is, regardless of slight variations, made true to type as discussed in the descriptions.

Judging from the Sonkh materials, at least two elements of this Kṣatrapa type of terracottas are not only new in the realm of Mathura art but contributed considerably to the appearance of the subsequent Kuṣāṇa terracotta figures as well. For one thing there is the production of larger figures seated on or ending in a stand. But among all the strange elements in this Kṣatrapa type the punctured eyes with the piercing look seem to have made the strongest impression on the contemporary Mathura artists, because from now on the faces of the males and females depicted in terracotta take up generally and for long the well-known punctured eyes. They are subdued or missing only in the "classical" or more sophisticated Kuṣāṇa terracotta faces from Mathura. It is, therefore, not surprising to find these punctured eyes already with terracotta figures from the earliest Kuṣāṇa level in Sonkh, the female, the male figures and the gods and goddesses too.

The male figures from the levels 24/23 (nos. 92–95) are made true to the female type with regard to the shape of face and the ribbon on the head. Three-legged figures, female as well as male, continue to occur as in earlier levels. The most interesting piece of the miscellaneous figures is no. 91 which has the shape of a brick showing a more than two-armed figure. The author feels safe to identify it as that of *Durgā Mahiṣāsuramardinī*, i.e. as one of the earliest depiction of the goddess at all (cp. no. 75).

Figures of Mother Goddess

79. Four Mother Goddess figures in a votive tank. All ot them are seated and have a bowl in their lap. Although the arms are broken off, the remains of a child in the left arm of two of the hand-modelled figures show that they were all depicted in the same way. Regardless of the tribal shape and the poor artistic merits of the figures they represent an unmistakable style of their own: The faces are roundish, the nose and the eyes are applied to the face in a most simple way. A ribbon is attached to the forehead joining behind the neck. The protruding ears wear undecorated ear-discs. Unusual is the disc-like ornament hanging out from under the frontlet. A broad necklace winds between the breasts ending in a cylindrical box or pendant. The breasts show a sharp prick each. All the figures wear a girdle formed by a row of discs. The legs are fixed on the bottom of the tank as far as preserved. This position explains why single figures originating from such votive tanks, but found separately, are mostly missing the legs. At the back, the head-band continues and frames the hair which is marked by vertical scratches. The lower back of the figures joins with the wall of the tank.
The tank character of this object is going to be described under Votive Tanks.
L. 26.0 cm. H. 14.8 cm. Red slip, whitish spots.
No. So I 325. FS. 2 V 1.3/Cc 5.5, H. 18.85 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

80. Mother Goddess from a votive tank. Hand-modelled. Facial features same as in figures of no. 79. Arms broken away. Head-band and necklace punched in a row. Plane ear-discs. Traces of a child on stomach and lap. Girdle chipped off. Legs missing. Horizontal cut in the lower back where the figure was joining the wall of the tank.
H. 11.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3560.
FS. 2 V 4.6/Cc 0.8, H. 18.95 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

81. Fragmentary figure of Mother Goddess from a votive tank. Type same as in nos. 79 and 80. Arms broken off. Traces of head-band. Plane ear-discs. Necklace adorned with a row of punctures. Breasts show a sharp prick each. Cylindrical pendant likewise showing a hole. Child as well as girdle missing. Horizontal break in the lower back where figure joined the tank.
H. 10.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3561.
FS. 2 V 5.2/Cc 0.6, H. 19.00 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

82. Mother Goddess with child from a votive tank. Hand-made type as nos. 79–81. Head-band and necklace undecorated. Disc-like ornament under frontlet. Breasts pricked. Left arm holds a clumsy looking child stretching its body and legs across the stomach of the goddess. Right arm damaged. Of the girdle a few discs are preserved. Legs broken off. On the lower back a horizontal break where figure was joining the tank.
H. 13.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2908.
FS. 2 V 7.8/Cc 2.2, H. 19.20 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

a) Fragment of a hand-made figure of Mother Goddess. Head, arms and legs broken off. Remains of necklace and cylindrical pendant. Girdle formed by a row of plane round discs. Horizontal break on lower back.
H. 11.4 cm. Colour: grey-brown. No. So III A 3104.
FS. 2 V 4.8/Cc 1.7, H. 19.00 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24
b) Fragment of a hand-made figure of Mother Goddess. Headless and armless bust. Necklace with row of punches. Breasts pricked. Distinct navel.
H. 8.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3565.
FS. 2 V 7.5/Cc 1.0, H. 19.05 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24
c) Fragment of a hand-made figure of Mother Goddess from waist to thighs. Left hand (or leg of child?) on hip. Girdle of plane discs.
H. 4.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3584.
FS. 2V 8.0/Cb 13.5, H. 19.10 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

83. Hand-made figure of Mother Goddess from a votive tank. Somewhat better in make than nos. 79 to 82. Mouth, nose and eyes properly applied on face. Round ornament on forehead. Ribbon around head. Left ear chipped off. Single disc adorns front of neck. Necklace carefully stamped with row of punches, ending in the cylindrical pendant below breasts. Navel. Girdle of plane discs from hip to hip. Remains of left hand or leg of child on left hip. Legs missing. At the back the head-ribbon frames the hair dangling down to the shoulders. Part of lower back which joined the wall of the tank is broken off.
H. 15.4 cm. Colour: brown, red slip. No. So I 357.
FS. 2 V 5.4/Cc 0.8, H. 19.05 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

84. Weatherworn torso of a hand-made and carefully shaped figure of Mother Goddess. Plain necklace with traces of cylindrical pendant. Navel. Remains of a girdle of discs. Break in lower back.
H. 10.5 cm. Colour: grey-brown. No. So III A 3105.
FS. 2 IV 10.0/Ca 5.5, H. 21.35 m. L.22
Although found in a later level the figure is of the type of no. 83.

85. Fragmentary figure of Mother Goddess with child. The trunk is hollow and wheel-made, all other parts handiwork and solid. The left leg, both the lower arms, the right breast and nearly all of the back are broken off. The right leg is bent, indicating a seated position of the goddess. The heavy-built head on the badly proportioned bulky figure is dominated by a massive nose with broad wings above tight-lipped mouth. Under thick eyebrows the eyes are incised in slightly slanting ovals. On both sides of the head long-stretched ears are protruding, adorned with simple ear-discs. Above the low forehead an ornamented head-band is laid around the head continuing at its back as an undecorated ribbon ending in a triangle. A plain necklace, now partly chipped off, hangs down between the breasts. The preserved left breast is shaped hemispherical, looking rather fertile with its strong nipple. In the left arm a small child is placed stretching the arms. The flexion of the leg as well as the size indicate that this figure did not form part of a votive tank.
H. 25.0 cm. Colour: brown, red slip. No. So I 318.
FS. 2 V 7.2/Cb 16.6, H. 19.55 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

86. Mother Goddess figure with child. Hand-made and shaped in the round. The head shows the characteristics of a special type: The face with its receding cheeks, the distinctly small mouth, the dominating big nose merging at its root into the angular but unmarked eyebrow lines, the deep-cut cavity of the eyes giving prominence to the eyeball the pupil of which is marked by a sharp prick, and finally, the broadly modelled ears adorned with plain ear-discs. A ribbon is laid along the forehead and joins behind the head in a wavy fashion at the neck. As plain as the frontlet is the necklace hanging down between the small breasts only the right one of which is preserved. A navel is hinted at by a shallow and round depression. The child, clumsily placed on the left arm, shows no distinctive features. The missing legs permit a look at the figure's stand which is, seen from the reverse, finishing up the plane back.
H. 21.5 cm. Colour: brown, traces of red slip.
No. So I 239.FS. 2 V 7.3/Ca 3.0, H. 20.90 m.
Kṣatrapa. Phase 2 of L.23

a) Torso of a seated woman. Plain necklace between tiny breasts.
H. 13.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2759.
FS. 2 V 6.0/Cb 14.3, H. 20.50 m. Kṣatrapa. L.22
b) Weatherworn bust of a female figure. Facial features as no. 86. Ribbon on forehead, joining between shoulders.
H. 11.6 cm. Brown, traces of red slip. No. So III A 654.
FS. 2 C 0.4/Cb 12.8, H. 25.75 m. Out of context.

87. Head of Mother Goddess figure of the same type as no. 86. Receding cheeks, dominating nose, incised eyes and low forehead with ribbon around head.
H. 6.8 cm. Colour: brown, traces of red slip.
No. So III A 2458. FS. 2 V 15.0/Cb 11.7, H. 19.70 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23

88. Head of Mother Goddess figure as no. 86. Head-band chipped off from forehead but preserved at the back. Receding cheeks. Sharply incised eyes, extremely small mouth. Right ear with plane ear-disc.
H. 6.8 cm. Colour: brown, red slip. No. So I 269.
FS. 2 V 12.3/Cb 0.25, H. 19.90 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

89. Head of Mother Goddess figure as no. 86. Weatherworn surface. Head-band chipped off. Facial features as in nos. 86 to 88. Left ear with plane ear-disc, right one missing.
H. 6.8 cm. Colour: brown, traces of red slip.
No. So III A 2048. FS. 3 I 1.0/Cb 3.2, H. 20.75 m. L.21

90. Headless figure of Mother Goddess. A clumsy version of no. 86. Right arm bent forwards but broken off in the elbow. Plain necklace hanging down between the breasts. Ugly child in left arm, left hand rests on the thigh. Legs bent in the knees. The figure is supported by a stand extending the back. Feet missing.
H. 14.6 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 2951.
FS. 2 V 7.3/Cb 16.8, H. 19.55 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

a) Headless fragment of a female seated on a stand. Necklace decorated with horizontal strokes. Legs broken off. Rectangular stand in extension of the back as in no. 86.
H. 15.1 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 1667.
FS. 2 IV 2.2/Cb 16.2, H. 21.80 m. L.(22)/21.
Although found in later level type originates in Kṣatrapa-L.23.

Miscellaneous Figures

91. Upper part of a plaque in the depth of a brick showing human figure in indistinct action. Stylistically, the piece has the type of face with receding cheeks and extremely low forehead originating in the Kṣatrapa-level 23. As the right shoulder is chipped off the identification of the figure is made rather difficult. On examination of the original the author offers the following interpretation. *The figure is a female on the ground of the round ornament on the forehead and a number of armlets on the right front arm crossing the chest horizontally. The figure is four or six-armed, it is* Durgā Mahiṣāsuramardinī. *The second right arm is lowered to the (broken off) back of the buf-*

Period V. Figurines from Levels 22 to 16

The Levels 22 to 16 cover the time from the beginning to the end of the Kuṣāṇa period. The number of usable terracotta figurines and fragments of them, assignable to this period, sum up to 87. With the exception of five pieces all the objects hail from stratified spots in their respective levels. The remaining five have been found in later levels or were registered as stray finds. They could be allotted to the one or the other level of this period.

Technically the Kuṣāṇa figurines represent all the methods of terracotta productions known from older times. There are the free-standing and hand-made figures, the moulded plaques and the figures in the round made from two moulds. Conspicuous is the presence of a large number of a new type of big seated figurines, either solid or hollow. Judging from the extent of finds of fragments, i.e. of legs, arms, and bodies of such voluminous figures (not listed here) they must have existed in considerable quantity. The invention of such big types goes back to the Kṣatrapas, but the Kuṣāṇas made them their own way, placing the seated figure on a square or round base. The artistic quality of these products is, mostly, rather poor; they represent, nevertheless, a stylistic type of their own.

With the exception of a more limited, rather sophisticated group of figures or plaques the exterior look of the Kuṣāṇa terracottas is dominated by the technique of carving most of the details into the surface of the clay by more or less deep incisions and pricks. This technique has in part been taken over from the Kṣatrapas, especially the impressive pricked pupils of the eyes lending the face such a piercing look. The same can be observed with the ears, often protruding straight sidewards and being mostly punctured on the upper or lower outer edge of the flat-spread and long-drawn ear (e.g. nos. 100, 102–107). The fondness to incise details and to prick eyes and breasts did not even stop at moulded plaques (e.g. nos. 119–129; 132–133) getting their finishing touches after coming out of the mould.

The type of "sophisticated" or "typical Kuṣāṇa" terracottas (compared with stone sculptures of the time) is best to be seen in the hollow plaques (nos. 146–147). Such pieces tempt to raise the query why the bulk of terracotta figurines of this period were produced in such a low quality compared with that of the stone products.

From the *iconographical* point of view the Kuṣāṇa terracotta finds from Sonkh represent a manifold, but still limited number of gods and goddesses, as there are Mother Goddess, Durgā, Durgā Mahiṣāsuramardinī, Kubera, Yakṣa, and Nāga. Dominating are the plaques with the depiction of the goddess Durgā in the act of killing the buffalo-demon Mahiṣa (nos. 116–126) in the well-known mode of the Kuṣāṇa period: the buffalo is standing on his hind legs with head uplifted in front of the goddess and body stretched across her thighs. Durgā herself is pressing down its spine with her right lower hand and grabbing its head by the throat. In this scenery the goddess is either four or six-armed. In the four-armed version the upper two hands carry dagger and shield or shield and short-shafted triśūla with prongs turned upwards. When six-armed, the highest hands are holding a garland. The plaques and fragments of the Durgā as Mahiṣāsuramardinī from Sonkh show a chronological development of this iconography which ends in no. 124. There the goddess is depicted with the short-shafted but now activated and letal weapon in the upper hands ready to thrust it down into the body of the Mahiṣa. Judging from no. 123 where the goddess holds a vajra instead of a triśūla in her right upper hand, the weapon in no. 124 might as well be a vajra (see H. Härtel, Early Durgā Mahiṣāsuramardinī Images – A Fresh Appraisal, in the press). It is interesting to note that a number of the Sonkh plaques hail directly from the Apsidal Temple no. 1 or its immediate surroundings. Not in the attitude of killing the Mahiṣa but as a standing two-armed goddess with dagger and shield Durgā is shown in no. 129.

The next frequent remains of a god are those of Kubera who was exclusively depicted as a big seated figure made in the round (nos. 135–140, and heads nos. 104–106). Kubera is two-armed and holding, as a rule, a cup and a longish object, presumably representing a mongoose purse. Quite a number of fragments from bodies (nos. 162–183 and 184–185) might be parts of such Kubera figures.

For the Boyish Figures of nos. 156–161 the necessary has been said below in the introduction to this group.

Human Heads

99. Head of a female(?) figure. Hand-modelled, solid core. Thick but short lips set in a deepening merging into the otherwise plump cheeks. Nose partly damaged. Characteristic features are the large open eyes with pupils denoted by pierced holes and the deeply incised double eyelids and eyebrows. The hair is elegantly parted in two flat bulges framed by bead-strings. The parting is decorated with a chain of jewels increasing in size towards the forehead. The ears are adorned with large circular ear-rings ornamented with two rows of holes. The back of the head is flattened, showing hair by incised lines.
H. 13.5 cm. Colour: brown, traces of red slip.
No. So I 260. FS. 2 V 14.8/Cb 17.8, H. 20.20 m.
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

100. Female bust. Hand-modelled, carbonized core. Eyeballs strongly pierced. Eyelids and eyebrows deeply incised; the latter joining in an uninterrupted line. Small mouth in a deepening. Hair-strands laid sideways, framing the forehead. In the middle an ornament shaped like a double-comb. Above it, head-dress (or crown?) mostly damaged. In the ears, marked by a perforation, broad pendants are hanging. Two almost horizontally arranged necklaces reach from shoulder to shoulder and rest on the breasts only the left one of which is preserved. The upper necklace consists of a row of plane discs while the lower one is shaped as a garland. Back smooth, slightly rounded.
H. 11.2 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So I 251.
FS. 2 V 20.0/Cb 15.0, H. 20.80 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21

101. Female head. Hand-modelled, solid. Half of the face and most of the hair lost. Face shows plump cheeks, thick-lipped mouth, strong nose and incised eyelids and eyebrows around sharply pricked eyeballs. Below the browline of the right eye traces of hair are visible. The incisions are altogether more carefully done than in nos. 99–100. A number of curls remain of the hair. Several small holes on the head indicate that an ornamental application was fitted. Back smoothly rounded.
H. 12.2 cm. Colour: brown, red-slipped.
No. So I 304. FS. 2 V 9.9/Cc 0.3, H. 20.70 m.
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.21

102. Male head. Hand-modelled, carbonized core. Weatherworn face with presumably incised eyelids. Above low forehead a wreath of crown with round jewel in centre. Ears adorned with cylindrical pendants. Back smoothly rounded.
H. 6.9 cm Colour: red-brown. No. So I 291.
FS. 2 V 2.3/Cc 5.8, H. 20.28 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

a) Weatherworn head of a male. Facial features and head-dress similar as in no. 102.

H. 5.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 81.
FS. 2 I 16.0/Bd 15.5, H. 20.0 m (Trench 4).
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22
b) Weatherworn male head. Punctured beard. Right ear-lobe shaped as a loop. Central ornament in incised head-dress.
H. 11.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2895.
FS. 2 IV 14.1/Ca 17.1, H. 21.40 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

103. Small mutilated human head. Hand-modelled. Eyebrows and eyelids incised. Pupils denoted by pierced holes. Nose showing nostrils. Thick-lipped deep-set mouth.
H. 4.2 cm. Colour: yellow-brown. No. So III A 1349.
FS. 2 V 5.6/Ca 15.8, H. 21.20 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21

104. Mutilated male head with moustache. Hand-modelled, core carbonized. Eyebrows and doubly edged eyelids incised, eyeballs protruding, pupils denoted by pierced holes. Mouth partly surrounded by curved moustache. Left ear broken off, right one damaged. Above low forehead vertically arranged strands of hair with traces of a fillet.Upon the head a hollow space is visible in the damaged hair-part. As the back is rough and convex in shape the head served possibly as decoration of a vessel.
H. 8.7 cm. Colour: brown, traces of red slip.
No. So I 241. FS. 2 V 8.2/Ca 9.8, H. 21.65 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

105. Head of a man with moustache. Hand-modelled. Eyebrows, eyelids, (traces of) ear-rings and the upturned hair altogether marked by sharply incised lines. Eyes arranged slantingly, pupils in protruding eyeballs denoted by pricked holes. Moustache indicated by three horizontal strokes each on both the cheeks. From the mouth downwards a semicircular incision presumably indicating a double-chin. Hair above low forehead is given in simply incised upright strokes. Broadly projecting ears with a pierced hole on the upper edge. Similar holes, but doubled, to both sides of the forehead. Back mutilated. Tenon for the insertion of the head into the body sticking out of neck. For the type of figure see no. 135.
H. 11.2 cm. Colour: grey-brown. No. So III A 2582.
FS. 2 V 3.0/Cc 0.5, H. 20.70 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

106. Male head with moustache. Hand-modelled, core carbonized. In all facial features similar to no. 105. In addition an incised horizontal line, ending in a sort of small bulges, is visible above the upturned hair. The holes in the ears are here accompanied by a single prick at the root of the nose. For the type of figure see no. 135.
H. 11.2 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So I 285.
FS. 2 III 17.5/Cb 6.7, H. 22.35 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

107. Crowned head of a male with moustache. Hand-modelled, solid. Broad face with overemphasized features. Strong eyebrows decorated with incised strokes. Deep-set eyeballs framed by convex eyelids. Large circular iris. Moustache decorated like the eyebrows. Mouth deepened and slightly open. Traces of a semicircular incision starting on one side of the mouth, indicating a double-chin as in nos. 105–106. Left ear preserved as a small projection standing out sideways, showing a pierced hole as with the ears in nos. 100, 105, 106. The man wears a tripartite crown above the extremely low forehead. This crown is shaped like a three-stepped wall-crest in its centre. Back smoothly rounded.
H. 10.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 250.
FS. 3 I 0.5/Cb 15.2, H. 21.25 m. Filling. Kuṣāṇa.

108. Head of a crowned male with moustache. Hand-modelled, solid. Eyebrows edged by incised line, below it traces of vertical decorative strokes. Eyelids incised, eyeballs pricked. Curved moustache above slightly open mouth. Large ears drawn sideways. Above the low forehead a lofty crown consisting of three sectionally punctured bands, giving the impression of a metal diadem, topped by a central head-piece. At the back vertical strokes indicating combed hair.
H. 13.5 cm. Colour: brown-red. No. So I 182.
FS. 2 III 4.3/Cc 7.4, H. 22.30 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

109. Pyramidal object with male head. Hand-made. A hollow conical stand with unproportionally large head. The stand itself is decorated as if forming the bust of the figure. Large incised eyes with pierced eyeballs under elevated eyebrows shortening the forehead to nil. Nose partly broken off. The upper lip above thick-lipped and slightly open mouth is dented by an incised vertical stroke. The moustache extends in two wavy lines to the ears. A greater number of dots marks a goatee all around the chin. A semicircular incision leading from the sides of the lips downwards is possibly marking a double-chin. Above the nearly vanished forehead a ring of vertically lined upturned hair (or diadem) is visible, topped by a now broken off object (turban-cloth?).
H. 16.6 cm. Ø 7.9 cm. Brown, red slip, blackened by fire.
No. So I 171. FS. 2 IV 6.0/Ca 8.5, H. 22.65 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

110. Small human head. Weatherworn face. Hair cloth-covered with low central bulge. Ear-ring in left ear.
H. 3.2 cm. Colour: yellow-brown. No. So I 200.
FS. 2 IV 14.25/Cb 11.85, H. 21.90 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

111. Head of a soldier with helmet? Hand-modelled. Eyebrows and eyelids incised. The weatherworn condition of the piece does not permit to recognize the details of the face and head-dress. The upper part looks like a helmet with vertical incised lines. The projection in front and the transition from the lower part of the head-dress to the helmet remains indistinct.
H. 7.4 cm. Colour: light brown. No. So III A 1154.
FS. 2 IV 5.2/Ca 18.3, H. 22.80 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

112. Human head. Hand-modelled. Plimp cheeks lifted up. Extremely broad incised eyes with large semicircular pupil. Wide mouth. Nose and forehead broken off. Root of nose and eyebrows in angular connexion. Auricle of naturally shaped left ear showing incised lines; ear-disc with concentric circles. Remains of a ribbon, chipped off above forehead, visible on back of the head.
H. 7.5 cm. Red-brown, green and darkbrown spots.
No. So I 186. FS. 2 V 6.2/Cb 16.4, H. 21.50 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19

113. Mutilated human head. Hand-modelled, solid. Broad face with plump cheeks and large open eyes. Eyelids incised, eyeballs pricked. Thick lips with a vertical groove in the centre. Auricle of remaining left ear showing incised lines; ear-discs adorned with concentric circles. Of the head-dress traces only are left, indicating a diadem-ring or multiple garland with frontal ornament. This ring extends from ear to ear, the remaining part of the head being completely undecorated. The back is clumsily rounded.
H. 9.5 cm. Brown, blackened by fire. No. So I 233.
FS. 2 IV 5.3/Ca 9.85, H. 22.85 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

114. Face of a hollow human figure. Perforation from ear to ear. Filled with sand. Plump cheeks, large open eyes. Eyelids incised. Eyeballs scratched, nose widely broken off. Mouth unusually small and flat. One ear-disc only is preserved. Ring of diadem with central jewel above extremely low forehead. Back smoothly rounded.

right, woman to left. She seems to sit on the left thigh of the man. His left arm lies on her back covered partly with long plaits of her hair. She wears a three or four-stringed girdle, his lower garment is kept by a double ribbon wound around the hips.
H. 5.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 677.
FS. 3 I 1.3/Cb 4.95, H. 22.85 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17
Perhaps a relict of an earlier level.

151. Fragment of a seated headless drummer beating a drum with both hands. Broad collar decorated with vertical grooves. Left leg broken off. Horizontal break in the back indicates the figure having been part of an ensemble sitting against a wall.
H. 8.6 cm. Red-brown, encrusted. No. So I 11.
FS. Trench 1, C13, H. 23.30 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17

152. Foot upon six-pronged object. No toes visible. Two rings adorn the ankle. The prongs show rounded tips, they are not continuing to the sides. The upper and lower tines to left display two sharp folds on their inside. In the centre a semicircular patch is visible. The lower edge of the piece is broken off and the back as rough as if split away. This fragment is perhaps part of a terracotta relief.
H. 6.5 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So I 299.
FS 2 IV 7.5/Cb 9.65, H. 22.05 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

153. Bust of a male figure. Type of rider. Face moulded. Turban with bulge to right. Long-drawn ears with ear-rings. Narrow face. Deep-set eyes with thick eyelids and protruding eyeballs under pronounced brows. Circular collar decorated with punched holes. Right arm broken off, left upper arm bent forward. Back smoothly rounded. Traces of a hair-strand on flattened back of head.
H. 8.0 cm. Red, strong mica slip. No. So I 167.
FS. 3 I 7.0/Ca 18.3, H. 20.95 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21(1)

154. Seated man with (broken off) legs apart. Decorative object. Hand-modelled. Right hand on breast, stump of left arm stretched sidewards. Body broad-hipped, ending in a sherd of a pipe or vessel. Back of the figure unfinished, obviously joined to some device previously. Head flat, face triangular. Thick lips. Eyes applied as broad patches, pupils indicated as pierced holes. Sharp-cut eyebrows under low forehead. Head-dress broken off. Broad ears marked by a perforation. Coarse fabric, chaff-tempered.
H. 17.7 cm. Grey-brown, red slip. So I 204.
FS. 2 IV 7.4/Ca 11.95, H. 22.20 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

155. Unstratified fragment of a plaque. Lower part of a scene. At the bottom a 2.6 cm high comb border. On the left traces of a floral edge. In the centre a female figure kneeling on her left knee. Body broken off above hips. She wears a five-stringed girdle with an ornamental buckle in the centre. On the feet traces of anklets. To the right and left worn legs of accompanying figures.
The position of the woman reminds one strongly of the famous so-called Bacchanalian relief from Mathura (National Museum New Delhi).
H. 5.3 cm, B. 7.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 4.
FS. Stray find. Out of context, but certainly Kuṣāṇa.

Boyish Figures

There is a small group of terracotta figures of a type which V. S. Agrawala (1984, fig. 39, p. 32) describes as "Terracotta Yakṣa showing a corpulent boyish figure with a bell round the neck, the hands pressed against the breast and conspicuous genitals". While Agrawala dates this type as Śuṅga, all the specimens from Sonkh have been found in Kuṣāṇa levels exclusively. As it is doubtful whether these figures, in spite of their pot-belly, can be taken as Yakṣas, they are registered here as BOYISH FIGURES. This type should not get mixed up with that of the Nude Dwarfs to be found frequently and over a longer time between the Mitra and late Kuṣāṇa periods, discussed below in Appendix I.

156. Headless boyish figure. Made from two moulds. Slightly pot-bellied. Clenched fists pressed against the breast. Traces of a necklace with a bell hanging in front. The boy wears bracelets, girdle of globules and anklets. He is bow-legged with a plain space of clay in between on which the genitals are conspicuously displayed.
H. 5.9 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1682.
FS. 2 V 14.0/Ca 17.4, H. 21.18 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

157. Boyish figure with clenched fists on breast. Made from two moulds. Big longish head. Thick eyelids and protruding eyeballs. Loosely combed strands of hair divided in the middle but without parting. Only traces of the ears. Necklace with bell round the neck. Armlets and bracelets. Pot-belly with navel. Girdle consisting of globules. Prominent genitals. Legs broken off.
H. 6.8 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1921.
FS. 3 I 4.5/Cb 5.0, H. 21.18 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

158. Headless boyish figure with clenched fists raised to the breast. Moulded. Frontal string of necklace with a bell as pendant. Pot-belly with fleshy fold above. Navel. Armlets, bracelets, anklets. Girdle of boxes. Figure bow-legged with plain space of clay in between. Genitals less noticeable than in nos. 157–157.
H. 7.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2165.
FS. 2 V 4.8/Cb 1.2, H. 21.25 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21(2)

159. Fragment of headless boyish figure. Made from two moulds. Clenched fists raised to the sides of the breast. Frontal part of necklace with bell pendant. Grooved fold above pot-belly. Navel. Worn girdle of globules. Right thigh and rest of the legs broken off. Traces of the genitals.
H. 6.9 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1683.
FS. 2 III 7.8/Cc 4.3, H. 22.35 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

160. Head of boyish figure. Moulded, back flat. Hair-do and facial features as in no. 157 but with circular pupils. Spiral-shaped ear-ring in right ear.
H. 3.2 cm. Colour: light brown, traces of red colouring.
No. So I 169. FS.2 IV 3.3/Cb 4.0, H. 23.15 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17.
Presumably originating from L.21.

a) Head of boyish figure. Hair-do similar to nos. 157 and 160. Low forehead. Ear-drops.
H. 3.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 154.
FS. 2 IV 4.97/Ca 10.33, H. 23.89 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

161. Worn fragment of headless boyish figure. Moulded. Arms bent upwards, hands broken off. Pot-belly with round navel pit. Girdle as in no. 158. Bow-legged with plain space of clay in between. Remains of genitals. Back flat.
H. 6.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 697.
FS. 2 IV 10.0/Ca 7.45, H. 24.40 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.15

Fragments of Human Bodies

The excavation yielded a large number of arms and legs broken off from mostly larger hand-modelled figures produced from the end of the Kṣatrapa to the end of the Kuṣāṇa periods. It is useful to take note of the main shapes of these extremities. A few remarkable details require attention.

1. The *arms* from Levels 23–22/21 are either stiffly made or strongly curved and often tapering towards the hand. They are adorned with one or more undecorated bulgy bangles. The fingers are, with the exception of the two earliest pieces, dismembered or not marked at all.
2. The *legs* from Levels 23–22/21, shown as a rule as seated, follow the shape of the arms, i.e. they are tapering from thigh to ankle. The thighs are extremely thick, the feet often dismembered, the toes indicated by grooved strokes.
3. The *arms* found in Levels 21 to 18 hail obviously all from large Kubera figures, showing incised decorations and a bowl or purse in the hand. The fingers are either given in natural shape or indicated by incisions.
4. The *legs* found in Levels 21 to 18 avoid the thick thigh but are shaped often quite unnatural, sometimes even square. The same goes with the feet, often shaped extremely flat and showing conspicuously marked toes, either grooved or carved normally.
5. The large figures to which the bodily fragments belonged were mostly seated on prefabricated square and hollow *bases*, two specimens of which are selected here. But when wheel-made, the bases are rendered round (cp. no. 183).

a) Fragments of Arms

162. Lower arm with hand of a human figure. Hand-modelled. Five plain bangles adorn the stiffly shaped wrist. The fingers are partly chipped off, they were divided by deep grooves.
L. 8.3 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 2637.
FS. 2 V 12.3/Cb 12.0, H. 19.45 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

163. Wrist and hand of a human figure. Hand-modelled. One plain but bulgy bangle. Fingers marked by grooved lines.
L. 5.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2561.
FS. 2 V 13.0–15.0/Cb 15.8–16.2, H. 19.60–19.25 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23

164. Curved arm of human figure. Hand-modelled. Tapering towards the hand. Two plain bangles. Hand shaped like a claw.
L. 5.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2455.
FS. 2 V 2.0–10.5/Ca 9.5–11.1, H. 20.55–20.35 m.
Late Kṣatrapa/Early Kuṣāṇa. L.23/22

165. Curved hand-modelled arm of human figure. Tapering towards the hand. One plain bangle. Hand shaped like a closed fist without partition of the fingers.
L. 6.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3214.
FS. 2 IV 8.8–10.5/Ca 13.9–19.0, H. 21.55–21.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

166. Wrist and hand of right arm of a human figure. Hand-modelled. Two plain bulgy bangles. Hand bent, partition of fingers worn, thumb broken off.
L. 6.9 cm. Red, traces of dark red slip. No. So III A 1697.
FS. 2 V 18.5/Ca 19.2, H. 21.15 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

167. Mutilated left arm of a human figure. Hand-modelled. No bangles on wrist. Hand holds a longish object, presumably a mongoose purse.
L. 12.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2821.
FS. 2 IV 5.5/Cb 1.8, H. 21.55 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

168. Lower right arm with hand resting on remains of right leg. Hand-modelled. One bangle, decorated with grooved strokes. Hand encircles an object not identifiable anymore.
L. 13.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1852.
FS. 2 V 15.8/Ca 10.1, H. 22.00 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19

169. Left arm of a human figure. Hand-modelled. Five grooved lines around lower arm and one bulgy bangle incised with slanting strokes. Hand holds a partly damaged bowl.
L. 9.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2117.
FS. 2 V 13.0/Cc 8.1, H. 21.12 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

170. Mutilated wrist and hand of a human figure. Hand-modelled. Remains of one bulgy plain bangle. Hand holds a bowl.
L. 5.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2786.
FS. 2 IV 0.8/Ca 1.3, H. 21.53 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

171. Lower left arm of a human figure. Hand-modelled. Traces of one incised bangle. The stiffly cut fingers of the hand hold a bowl.
L. 8.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1810.
FS. 2 V 11.4/Cc 4.1, H. 21.50 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19

b) Fragments of Legs

172. Monstrous leg of a seated human figure. Hand-made. Tapering from thigh to ankle. No anklet. Extremely small foot with traces of indented toes.
H. 7.0 cm. Colour: brown, red slip. No. So III A 3116.
FS. 2 V 10.5/Cb 9.5, H. 19.35 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

173. Leg of a seated human figure. Hand-modelled. Tapering from thigh to foot. Bulge on thigh seems to be the remains of a hand. One plain applied anklet. Toes of small foot marked by deep grooves.
H. 11.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2722.
FS. 2 V 5.5/Cc 4.0, H. 20.00 m.
Late Kṣatrapa/Early Kuṣāṇa. L.23/22

174. Massive leg of a seated human figure. Hand-modelled. Tapering from thigh towards foot. One bulgy but plain anklet. Toes marked by deep grooves.
H. 10.2 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 2828.
FS. 2 V 7–9/Cb 16.15, H. 19.90–19.70 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

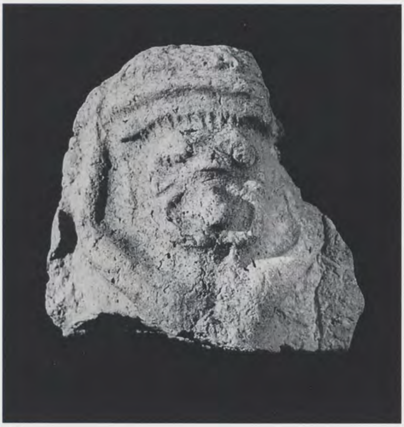
175. Lower part of a leg of a human figure. Hand-modelled. Misshapen bulgy ankle with applied plain anklet. Flat foot with toes marked by grooves.
H. 5.8 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1696.
FS. 2 V 15.4/Ca 10.5, H. 20.70 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

176. Fragment of a human leg. Hand-modelled. One bangle. Foot crusted.
H. 4.6 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 2384.
FS. 2 V 14.0/Cb 14.5, H. 20.38–20.10 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

177. Big human foot. Hand-modelled. Two bangles applied one above the other but connected by grooves. Massive flat foot with grooved toes.
L. 4.0 cm. Colour: dark grey. No. So III A 1723.
FS. 2 V 1.5/Cb 15.5, H. 20.90–20.60 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

178. Foot of a human figure. Hand-modelled. Naturally shaped.
L. 5.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1746.
FS. 2 V 2.1/Cb 12.3, H. 20.95–20.60 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

179. Monstrous human leg. Hand-modelled. Leg and foot rectangularly shaped. No anklet. Toes marked by deep grooves.
H. 7.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1022.
FS. 3 II 8.7/Ca 18.0, H. 20.63 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21



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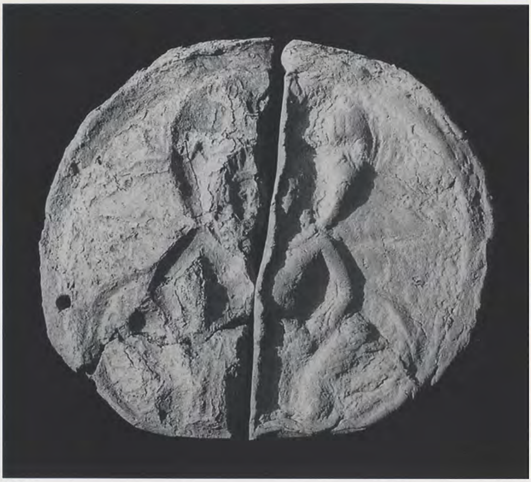

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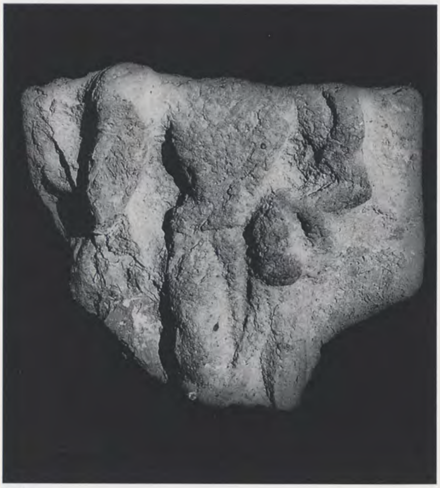

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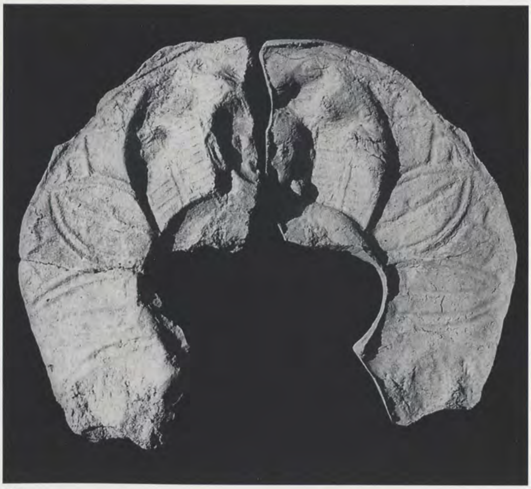

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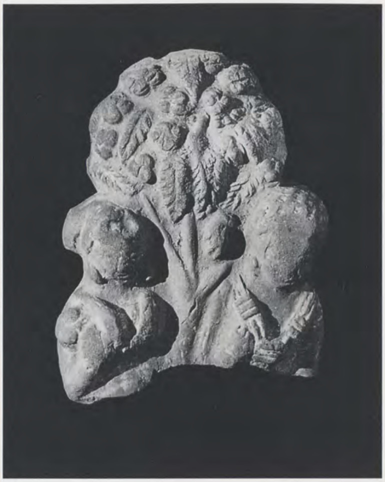
Terracotta Ḥuman Figurines. Period V



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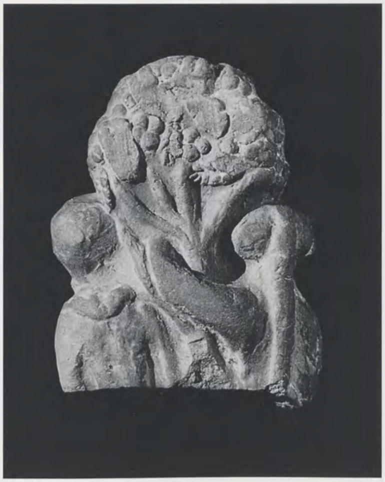

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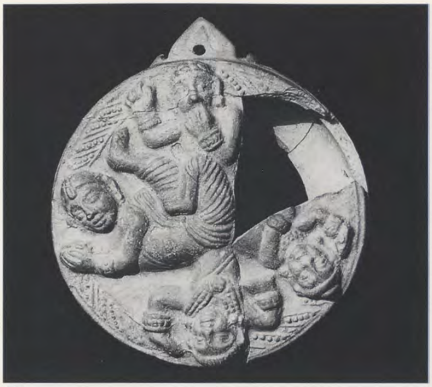

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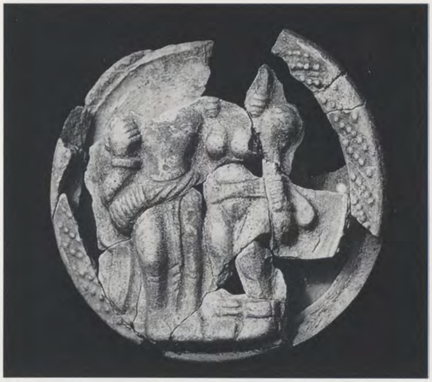

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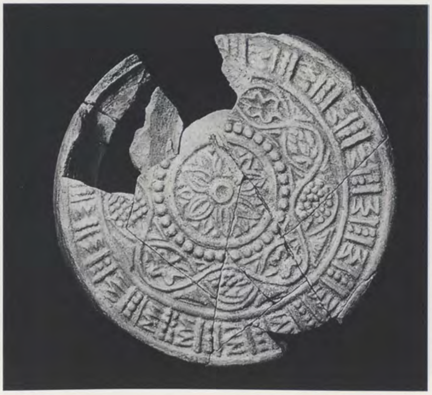

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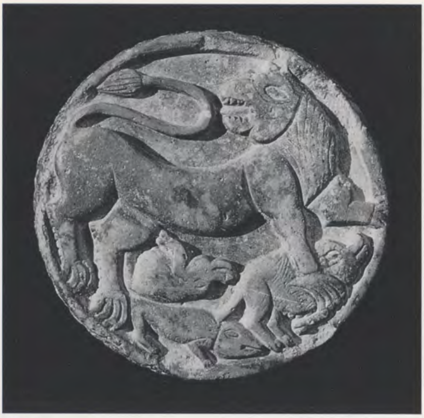
Terracotta Human Figurines. Period V



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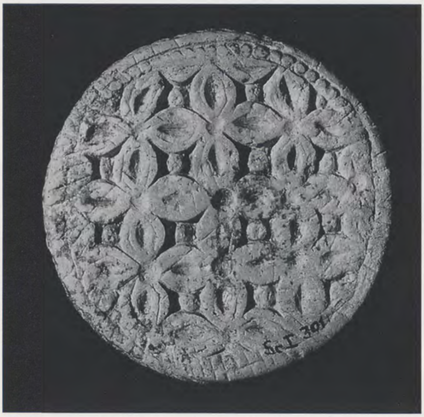

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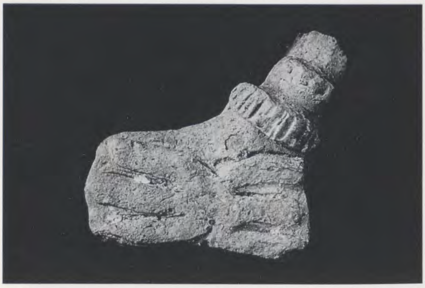

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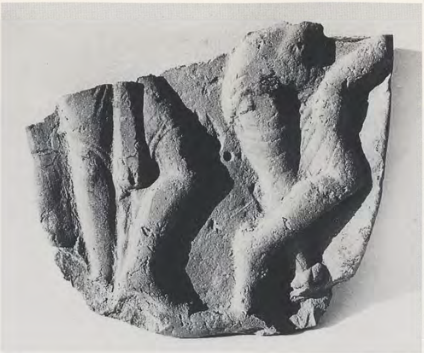

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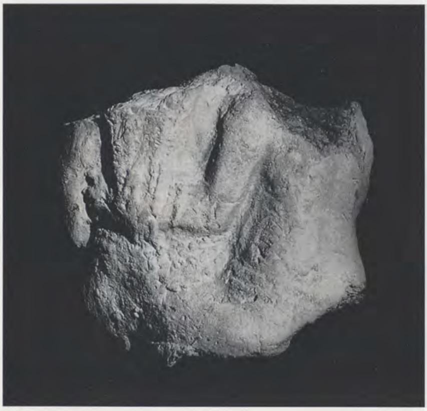

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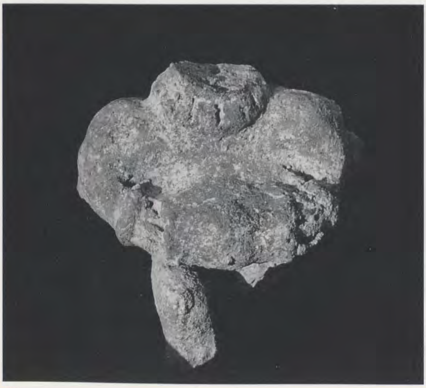


151

Terracotta Human Figurines. Period V

H. 4.0 cm. Brown, traces of black paint. No. So III A 161.
FS. 2 IV 8.12/Ca 13.72, H. 26.25 m. Jat. L.6/5

198. Rider on horse. Head of the man exactly of the type of no.197. Upper body ascending directly from the animal's back with arms curved and hands touching the horse's neck.
The horse itself is going to be described under ANIMAL FIGURES.
H. (with horse) 14.1 cm. Red-brown. No. So I 102.
FS. 2 IV 19.9/Ca 14.06, H. 25.35 m (pit from L.5). Jat.

199. Head of a rider with flat bowl-shaped cap as no.197.
H. 4.7 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 541.
FS. Filling. Out of context.

200. Mutilated bust of a rider as nos.197–199.
H. 6.2 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 171.
FS. Surface find. Out of context.

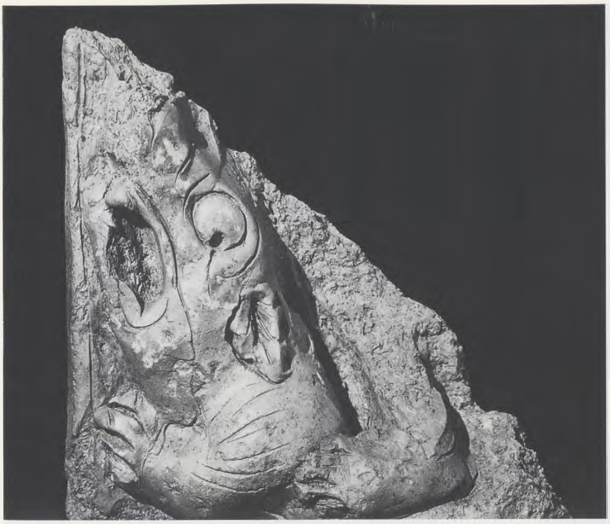
201. Head of a man with blade of a sword. Protruding "blind" eyes in a face with plump cheeks, broad nose and thick lips. To the side of lips a pricked hole each. Of the hair-dress a bulgy ribbon is preserved. The blade of the sword touches the head. Back of head chipped off.
H. 4.8 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 535.
FS.2 III 19.5/Ca 3.46, H. 25.40 m (pit from L.5). Jat.

202. Head of a male figure. Head-dress chipped off. Large, protruding eyes, broad nose and mouth, thick lips. Long neck. Pupils painted. Right ear sticking out, small ear-ring.
H. 4.5 cm. Brown with red paint. No. So III A 143.
FS. 2 V 3.32/Ca 15.22, H. 26.45 m. Jat. L.5

203. Head of a male figure. Facial features as no.202 with large and protruding "blind" eyes. Head-dress shaped like, or covered by, a flat cap.
H. 3.7 cm. Colour: dirty brown. No. So I 56.
FS. 2 V 3.95/Cb 8.44, H. 27.00 m. Jat. L.4

204. Head of a child. Plump face with extremely small mouth. Remains of curly hair. Back unmodelled.
H. 4.1 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 3.
FS. Uppermost wall in 3 I/Ca. Jat. L.3–1

205. Head of a male figure with longish head and facial features as nos.202–203. Small right ear. Broadbrimmed conical hat. Pointed tenon for insertion into a separately shaped body.
H. 5.3 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3258.
FS. Ditch find. Out of context but certainly Jat.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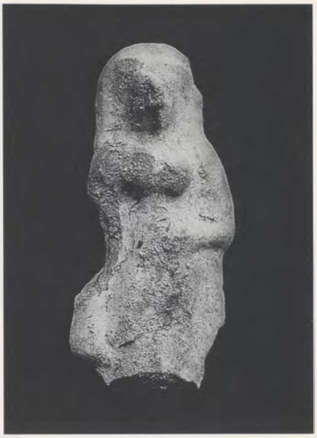
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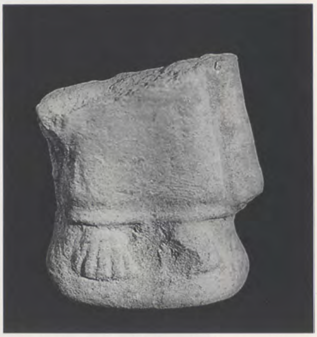
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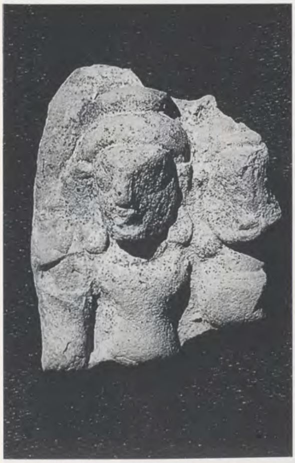
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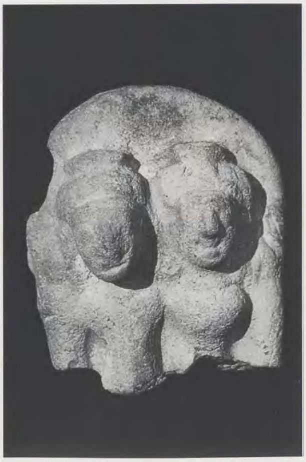
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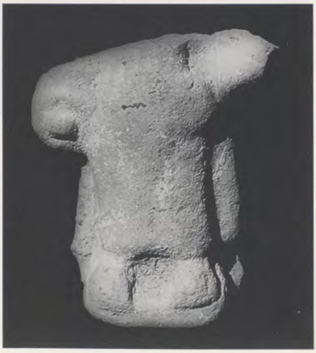
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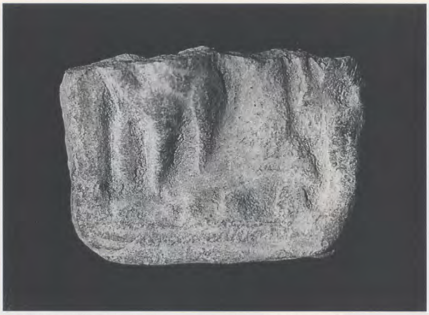
Terracotta Human Figurines. Period VI



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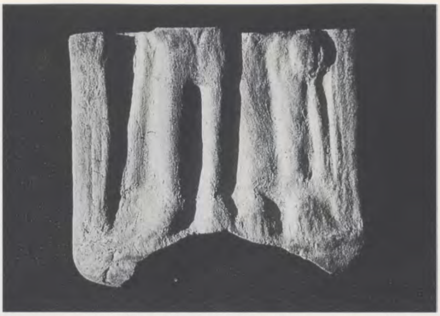

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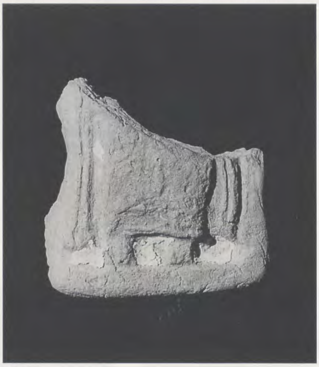

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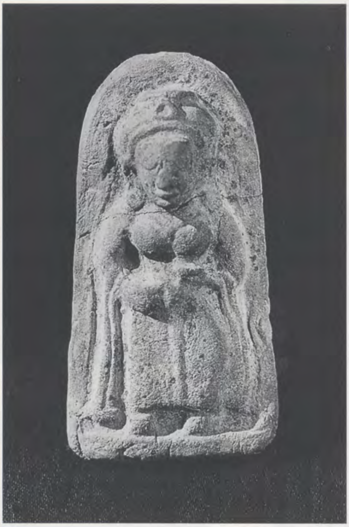

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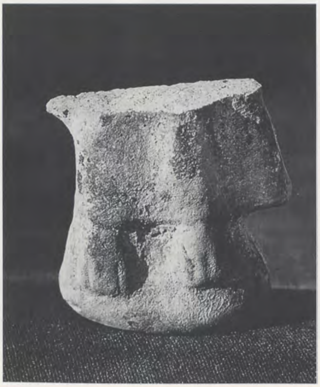

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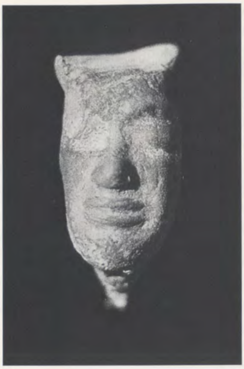
Terracotta Human Figurines. Period VII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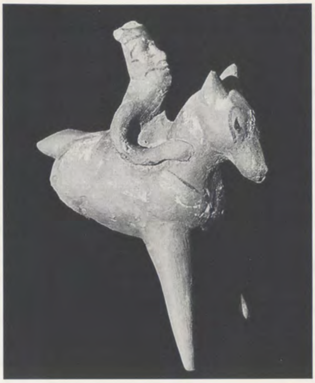
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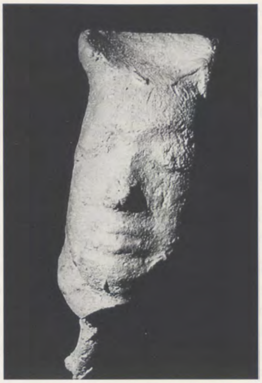
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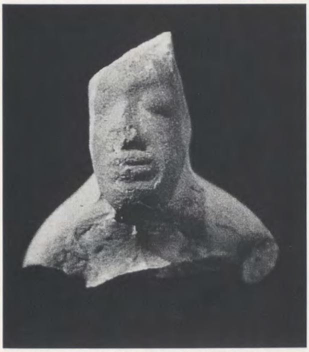
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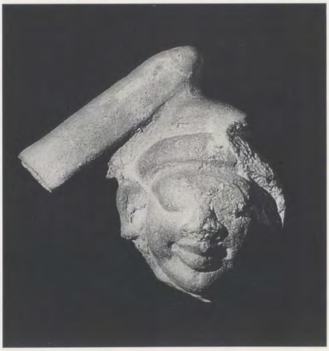
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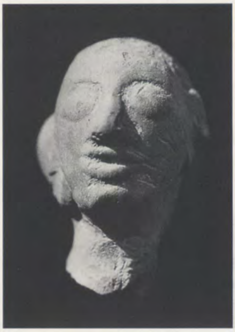
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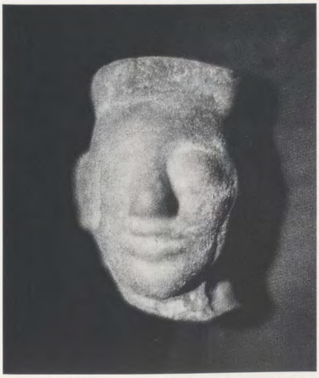
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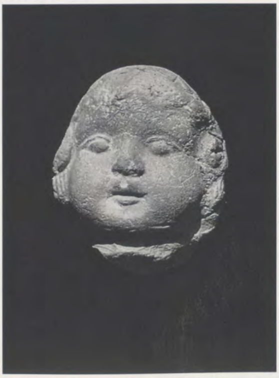
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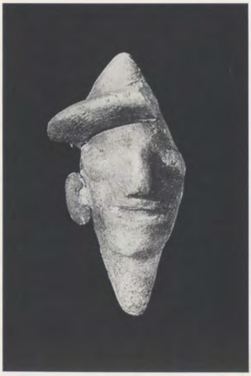
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Terracotta Human Figurines. Period VIII

TERRACOTTA HUMAN FIGURINES: APPENDIX 2

Tribal Figures

The terracotta figurines nos. 1–227 represented art objects which, one way or the other, were links of a chain strung together during the times of constant development of the terracotta art in Sonkh and which on the basis of its stratigraphic datas could be classified according to style, iconography and fabric. But there remains a group of hand-made figures and fragments so much different from the normal products that they had to be separated from the main strand. The divergence is caused by the simple fact that these terracottas have been formed by people who were no artists and, in a part, by children, and therefore represent figures which are individual products and in this sense unique. They are not "timeless" but embedded in the stream of everlasting activities century after century. Although presented here entirely according to their stratigraphic provenance, these figures from Sonkh prove that a "Zeitgeist" is immanent even in such undeniably poor products. In want for a more appropriate word the term "tribal" has been accepted for this individualistic type of art production and will be used here too, but one should always be aware of its wider meaning beyond the limited sense of the word.

228. Bust of a female figure. Right side of face and right arm broken off. Remaining part of face shaped similar to beak-type figures with dominating pinched out nose. Eyes and mouth indicated by concave impressions. Large loop applied at the side of left ear. Collar and part of necklace chipped off. The breasts are placed unbalanced. Left arm stretched sideward.
H. 7.3 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2996.
FS.2 IV 9.0/Be 18.2, H. 18.85 m. Advanced Śuṅga C.P., L.30

229. Fragment of a rider. Shapeless face dominated by broad horizontally cut mouth. Figure wears sort of a turban and a bulgy necklace. Arms broken away. Cavity between thighs extends as deep cleft up to the stomach (cp. nos. 58 ff.).
H. 7.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3678.
FS. 2 IV 1.4/Cc 3.5, H. 17.86 m. Mitra. L.27/26

230. Upper part of a female figure. Head without head-dress. Mammoth eyes and mouth carelessly hollowed out. Left arm stretched sideward, partly broken off right arm presumably held forward. Remnants of applied breasts.
H. 5.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3645.
FS. 3 I 1.3/Cb 9.9, H. 18.15 m. Mitra. L.27/26

231. Bust of human figure. Pinched out face, mutilated nose-ridge extending up to the head. Mouth presumably indicated by a depression. Eyes marked by vertically scratched eyelids and pricked pupils. Arms were stretched forward (as with riders) but now broken off.
H. 5.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1957.
FS. 3 I 3.3/Ca 14.5, H. 19.65 m. Late Mitra. L.25

232. Head of a male figure. Eyes applied as large patches with pricked pupils. Broad nose with pierced nostrils. Mouth above long-drawn chin marked as a grooved hole. Ears protruding to the sides, adorned with small round ear-rings. From upper edge of left ear winds a strand of hair down to the neck. Head-dress wound like a turban cloth. Back unmodelled.
H. 5.0 cm. Colour: grey-black. No. So I 198.
FS. 3 II 19.2/Ca 5.0, H. 19.98 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

233. Flat female figure. Pinched out nose dominates the face. Nearly invisible eyes marked as small encircled pricks. Ears protruding straight to the sides. In place of mouth a shallow depression. Traces of hair on the head. Stumpy arms stretched out to the sides. Small pointed breasts. Broad round hips and parted shortened legs. Back flat.
H. 15.0 cm. Colour: brick-red. No. So I 298.
FS. 2 IV 5.8/Be 17.7, H. 20.40 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

234. Bust of a female figure. Face marked as a large grooved shallow depression. Head-dress and ears indicated as protruding parts of the head. Short stumpy arms stretched out to the sides. Applied breasts mutilated. Back unmodelled.
H. 5.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2907.
FS. 2 V 14.3/Cc 2.5, H. 19.05 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

235. Head of a human figure. Broad face with protruding ears similar to the type of nude dwarfish males. Long-drawn eyelids, mutilated nose, thick-lipped mouth. Presumably bald head.
H. 4.8 cm. Colour: brown, white paint. No. So III A 2997.
FS. 2 V 0.9/Cb 13.5, H. 19.15 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

236. Crusted and worn seated human figure. Right arm stretched forward, left arm kept in a lowered position. Parted stumpy legs. Head partly damaged. Pinched out face, deep-set grooved eyes.
H. 8.7 cm. Colour: red under mud. No. So III A 1693.
FS. 3 I 8.2/Ca 8.3, H. 20.65 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

237. Crude male figure. Damaged head shows remains of applied eyelids. Large nose above broad-cut mouth. Right ear-ring preserved. Cap-like head-dress with traces of adornments. Left arm broken off. Right arm bent towards chest. Plump body, deep-bored navel with thrown-up edges. Legs missing.
H. 12.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2772.
FS. 2 V 13.5/Cb 12.2, H. 19.30 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

238. Fragment of a human figure. Pinched out face with no markings of eyes. Nose-ridge extends right up to the pyramidal protuberance of head. Traces of a depression in place of mouth. No decorations. Large deep-bored navel with thrown-up edges.
H. 5.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3264.
FS. 2 IV 15.1/Cc 6.2, H. 17.75 m (ditch from 23).
Kṣatrapa. L.23

239. Mutilated seated figure which because of the size of the applied breasts might be taken as a female. The face shows pricked eyes, a long nose with clear nostrils and pouted lips. The protruding ears are pierced at the upper edge. The figure wears a bulgy necklace and an *upavīta*, the latter reaching from left shoulder to right hip. The arms are stretched forward. A flatly hollowed navel is visible above the parted but broken off legs. A special feature of this figure is a hood raising from the middle of the back in a fan-like shape upwards to the back of the head spreading there like a halo. The way this hood is applied permits one to identify the figure as that of a Nāginī (or perhaps Nāga).
H. 12.5 cm. Colour: Red with red slip. No. So I 282.
FS. Stray find. On the analogy of the Mother Goddess figures from votive tanks from the Levels 24/23 (nos. 79 ff.) this piece has to be dated to the Kṣatrapa period.

240. Bust of a female figure. Dominant nose reaching from mouth to ribbon around head. Eyes applied as round patches. Breasts and right arm broken off. Left arm lowered in bent position.
H. 6.6 cm. Grey-brown, black slip. No. So III A 1854.
FS. 2 IV 5.1/Cb 18.5, H. 21.05 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21

241. Corroded head of a human figure. Broad face with protruding ears. Eyes applied as lenticular lids with pricked eyeballs.

Mutilated nose extends up to hair-level. Nostrils indicated by pricked holes. Mouth shaped as a round cavity. Necklace decorated with punched holes.
H. 13.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1666.
FS. 2 V 14.3/Ca 8.5, H. 20.70 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

242. Bust of a female figure. Crudely shaped face: nose indicated as a deep cavity, eyes as flat round dips and mouth as a large hole. Stumpy arms stretched out to the sides, wearing one plain armlet. Applied breasts unbalanced.
H. 6.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2177.
FS. 2 V 9.0/Ca 19.3, H. 20.70 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

243. Curiously shaped female figure. Mouth and nose indicated as large cavities, eyes scratched slantingly in the narrowing edges of the face. Breasts given as longish depressions. Right arm bent towards hip, lowered left arm broken off. Area of the armpits perforated.
H. 5.5 cm. Colour: grey-black. No. So III A 1420.
FS. 2 V 2.8/Ca 4.8, H. 21.13 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21(1)

244. Seated male figure of grotesque build. Broad cheeks, narrow forehead. Huge dominating nose. Preserved right eye applied. Mouth depicted as a triangular cavity, under the nose a horizontally scratched line indicating a moustache. Left lower arm broken off. Right arm bent forward holding a round object decorated with punched circlets in his hand (shield?). The stomach seems to be sunk. Both legs broken off.
H. 8.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1247.
FS. 2 V 19.2/Ca 17.1, H. 21.60 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21(2)

245. Bust of a female figure. All details of the face and the decorations crudely applied. On top some sort of a diadem. Around the neck a necklace consisting of a chain of round discs. From the left shoulder winds an *upavīta* down between the conspicuously applied breasts.
H. 7.5 cm. Colour: brick-red. No. So 338.
FS. 2 IV 10.5/Ca 13.2, H. 21.75 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

246. Bust of a human figure. Crudely pinched out face with dominating nose, receding cheeks and an edgy forehead under which the eyes are indicated as vertically incised strokes. To the right a pointed bulge on head. Mouth seems to have been given as a flat depression under the nose-wings. Right arm broken off, left arm bent downwards.
H. 3.5 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2936.
FS. 2 IV 6.1–9.5/Cb 5.0–6.5, H. 21.30–21.15 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

247. Upper half of a curiously shaped human figure. The head shows (visible on the left) an inverted face with eyes and mouth indicated by pricked holes. A large ring adorns the left ear, a pendant hangs in the right one. A sort of crown consisting of perforated peaks covers the head. The body is heavily smeared, the left arm broken off. The stumpy right arm is slightly bent and shows armlets.
H. 6.25 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1396.
FS. 2 IV 0.5/Cb 10.5, H. 21.85–21.55 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

248. Fragment of a male figur (rider?). Simple pinched out face with dominating nose. No eyes indicated. Mouth shaped as a shallow round depression. On top a turban-like head-dress. Broken off arms were originally stretched forward.
H. 7.8 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2701.
FS. 2 III 10.5/Cb 16.5, H. 21.90–21.60 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20

249. Crudely shaped *Ekamukhaliṅga*. Eyelids smeared towards the sides, pupils presumably pricked. Mouth below huge nose given as a hole. An *upavīta* hangs slanting from right to left on the linga-shaft.
H. 10.8 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1235.
FS. 2 IV 12.2/Cc 5.8, H. 21.40 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

250. Fragment of a hand-made plaque showing a female figure. Right arm bent, palm of the hand facing upwards. Left arm lowered to the hip. Crudely shaped face with pricked eyes and nostrils. Head-dress and right ear-ring showing incised decor. Traces of a necklace. Breasts and navel pricked. Girdle and short dress marked by incised lines.
H. 11.4 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 235.
FS. 2 IV 10.4/Ca 9.0, H. 22.28 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

251. Head of a human figure. Eyes and nose applied to an otherwise plain tapering head-piece of clay. Mouth incised as a sharp horizontal stroke. At the lower edge a spot of fracture to the left. Therefore an identification as *Ekamukhaliṅga* seems to be out of question.
H. 5.2 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1360.
FS. 2 III 15.8/Ca 14.8, H. 22.64 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

252. Seated male (?) figure. Upper part of face broadly extended to the sides including the ears. Lower face consisting of a very narrow chin with open mouth and protruding tongue. Eyelids applied lenticularly, pupils pricked in disc-shaped iris. Head ends in a protuberance on top. A plain necklace hangs down over the nipples. The whole left and the lower right arm as well as both legs are broken off. The right arm extended towards the knee. The figure is pot-bellied with large navel pit. At the bottom part of the round stand is visible.
H. 21.8 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1073.
FS. 2 III 18.4/Ca 18.2, H. 22.90 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

253. Head of a male figure. Narrow forehead with broken off protuberance above it. Eyes incised under edging brows. Nose with nostrils mutilated. Applied moustache above bordered mouth. Ears protruding to the sides reaching from the level of the forehead down to that of the chin.
H. 10.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1292.
FS. 2 IV 4.2/Cb 10.8, H. 22.25 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

254. Fragment of the bust of a male figure. Bald head with protruding long ears. Narrow forehead with sharp-edged brows under which the eyelids are applied around incised eyeballs with pricked pupils. Long dominating nose above bordered mouth which seems to be opened. At the left shoulder hangs a bulgy object, presumably cloth.
H. 6.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1039.
FS. 2 III 7.3/Cc 8.2, H. 22.67 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

255. Head of a human figure. Broad head, face overlapping with the protruding ears. Sharp-ridged nose dominates face up to the forehead. Eyes incised, pupil marked by pricks. Mouth inverted in a shallow depression.
H. 2.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1038.
FS. 2 IV 16.5/Ca 17.5, H. 22.75 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

256. Mutilated, presumably seated figure of a female. Pinched out face with nose-ridge reaching to the forehead. Eyes and mouth incised. Protruding ears showing a perforation near upper and lower edge. The ridge of the ears extends to the head where it joins the ridge of the nose. The meeting-point is adorned with an applied punctured disc. A necklace consisting of applied round pearls hangs down to the mutilated breasts. Arms broken off.

2. Terracotta Animal Figurines

The excavation yielded 306 animal figurines and fragments of such, of which 166 are going to be described and depicted and another 140 will be allotted to these types. Moreover, not less than 455 irrelevant tiny fragments, (parts of legs, bodies, tails, trunks etc.) mainly of later levels, have been registered. The types of animals among the described and allotted specimens are distributed to the different periods as follows:

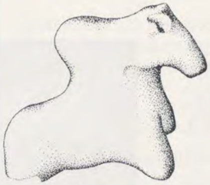
Type	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII	VIII	Total
Elephant	–	12	22	5	4	2	1	–	46
Horse	–	4	23	4	1	23	3	7*	65
Humped Bull	2	3	12	26	29	17	1	1	91
Crouchant Bull	–	–	–	–	–	4	4	–	8
Monkey	(?)1	–	14	–	–	–	–	–	15
Bird	–	3	11	5	6	–	–	–	25
Dog	–	2	–	–	1	5	–	4	12
Snake	–	1	–	–	3	1	–	–	5
Camel	–	1	5	–	1	–	1	–	8
Buffalo	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	3
Deer	–	–	(?)1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Boar	–	–	(?)1	–	–	–	–	–	1
Lion	–	–	–	1	–	2	–	–	3
Ram	–	–	–	–	3	1	–	–	4
Antilope	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1
Goose	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
Indistinct	–	3	2	2	5	3	–	2	17
Total	3	29	91	44	55	59	10	15	306

*) Plus a great quantity of hollow legs and parts of hollow bodies of horses.

Notwithstanding the arbitrary nature of this list of finds there seems to be no doubt that the elephant was the favourite animal depicted in Period II, the time of the Mauryas and the Śuṅga Cultural Phase, while in the Mitra Period III the horse becomes as frequently modelled as the elephant, followed by an increasing number of humped bulls and birds. Most surprising is the fact that monkeys appear exclusively in this Period III, if we ignore that doubtful lump of clay from Period I. As far as the condition of the fragments allows to say, these monkeys were all three-legged. In the Kṣatrapa and Kuṣāṇa Periods IV and V elephant and horse seem to have gone out of fashion; they are replaced by diverse types of humped bulls. But in the Period VI all of a sudden the horse is "in" again though now depicted differently compared with those of the preceding periods. For the outcome of Periods VII and VIII one has to bear in mind that these late levels were presumably cleared out by the inhabitants before leaving the place.

The animal figurines and fragments have been arranged here according to their stratification. Changes in style and decoration of the animals, especially with regard to elephants and horses, are best to be studied by comparison of their appearance in the succession of periods.

Rough drawings may show the types of humps characterizing the humped bulls.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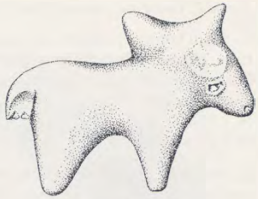
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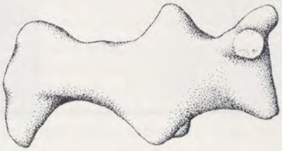
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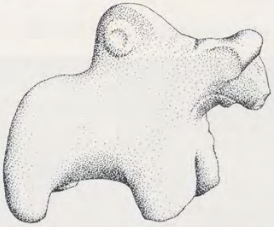
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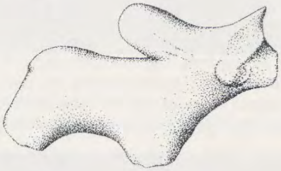
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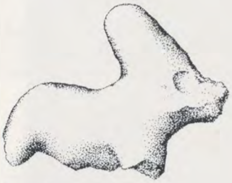
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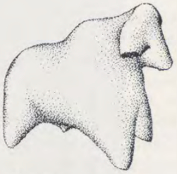
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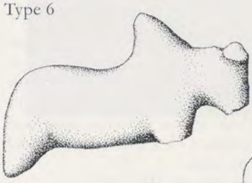
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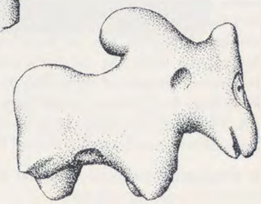

Type 9

Period I. Terracotta Animals from Levels 40 to 37

1. Small lump of unburnt clay resembling the face of a monkey?. Eyes incised semicircularly above protruding jaw. Wrinkles between eyelids and horizontal line on forehead. Possibly the product of chance.
H. 1.7 cm. Colour: grey. No. So I 386.
FS 2 IV 8.7/Be 17.5, H. 15.42 m. PGW-Level 38/37

2. Neck of a bull? Slanting incised lines on neck and around the head-part where horns begin to protrude.
H. 3.9 cm. Colour: yellow-brown. No. So III A 3103.
FS. 2 IV 2.45–6.6/Be 18.0–19.5, H. 16.02–15.90 m. Uppermost level of PGW. L.37

3. Fragment of a bull's head. Left horn broken off. Right one incised with parallel lines. Eyes deep-set with elevated pupil.
H. 7.5 cm. Colour: yellow-brown. No. So III A 2065.
FS. Filling. On the analogy of no. 2 this piece has on the ground of its material, colouring and decoration to be dated into Period I.

Period II. Terracotta Animals from Levels 36 to 29

4. Elephant. Trunk bent downwards to ca 60°. Tusks shown as coming out of their root-sheaths but broken short. Preserved right ear protruding sidewards showing an incised line dividing the ear in two halves. Eyes incised as lozenges within which the pupil is pricked. Decoration consists of punctured holes on the forehead and a band each hanging over the ears and ending in tassels. Another band decorated with incised strokes encircles the body of the animal in its back part just before the hind legs.
H. 7.0 cm. L. 14.5 cm. Colour: grey. No. So I 212.
FS. 3 II 3.8/Ca 18.2, H. 11.50 m in a well starting at 15.10 m, i.e. Early Maurya. L.35

5. Fragment of an elephant. Legs and part of trunk broken off. Trunk bent from horizontal position nearly in a right angle. Eyes shown within incised lozenges, the iris being indicated as an elevated ring. Head and upper part of trunk decorated with three lotus rosettes.
H. 6.9 cm. L. 16.1 cm. Grey with black slip. No. So I 377.
FS. 2 IV 0.95/Cc 1.35, H. 16.10 m. Maurya. L.32

6. Fragment of an elephant. Legs, trunk and part of head and neck broken off. Stumps of the tusks protruding from the root-sheaths. Eyes incised as lozenges with a circlet indicating the pupil. Head and body entirely covered with punched circlets.
H. 9.4 cm. L. 12.9 cm. Grey, black-slipped. No. So III A 3045.
FS. 2 IV 9.7/Cc 15.7, H. 15.98 m. Maurya. L.32
Note: Further specimens of elephants of types no. 5 and 6 are registered as finds nos. So III A 507; 3015; 3045; 3287; 3326; 3364; 3529; 3620.

7. Fragment of an elephant. Trunk, part of head and legs broken off. Eyes shown as lozenges with circlet for the pupil. Stumps of tusks protruding from their root-sheaths. From the broken off ears hang striped bands with large tassels down to the animal's thighs. A double row of punched circlets stretches aside and behind the neck. At the back remains of a band with incised strokes are preserved encircling the body.
H. 8.1 cm. L. 11.3 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1014.
FS. 3 I 0.5–4.5/Ca 17.0–19.5, H. 22.50–22.20 m. Out of context but safely to be allotted to Period II.

8. Fragment of a humped animal. Head entirely broken off. Short but thick legs, stumpy tail.
H. 6.8 cm. L. 10.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1958.
FS. 3 I 10.8–11.9/Ca 16.3–17.5, H. 15.00–14.70 m in a well starting at 15.85 m, i.e. Early Maurya. L.34

9. Humped bull. Hind legs broken off. Hump type 1.
H. 6.0 cm. L. 7.9 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3407.
FS. 2 IV 14.8/Cc 7.0, H. 16.50 m. Śuṅga C.P., L.30
Note: Further specimen of humped bull of this type registered as no. So III A 2569.

10. Head of a horse with head-collar. Straps of the collar decorated with punched circlets. Eyes incised as lozenges with pricked pupils. Ears mutilated.
H. 6.1 cm. L. 9.1 cm. Grey, black-slipped. No. So I 201.
FS. 3 II 3.9/Ca 18.6, H. 16.40 m. Maurya. L.33
Note: Further specimen of same type as no. 10 registered under So III A 1288.

11. Mutilated small animal. Calf or horse. Traces of a mane (?) seem to indicate a horse. Transverse hole through the nose is evidently for fastening a string.
H. 3.3 cm. L. 4.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1900.
FS. 3 I 9.1/Ca 16.8, H. 16.25 m. Maurya. L.33

12. Fragment of an animal figurine, probably a horse. Pointed skull (or head with hair bulge), longish mouth. Ears missing. Nose pierced for fastening a string.
H. 6.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3014.
FS. 2 IV 7.0/Be 18.0, H. 18.60 m. Śuṅga C.P., L.30

13. Dog? Wrinkled forehead rather than grooved horns. Eyes pricked, mouth slightly open. Legs partly broken off.
H. 6.7 cm. L. 10.9 cm. Light brown, traces of red paint.
No. So I 231. FS. 3 I 12.0/Ca 18.5, H. 15.00 m in a well starting at 15.20 m, i.e. Early Maurya. L.34

14. Dog (?). Top of ears, mouth and the front legs broken off. Eyes incised as circles with convex centre. Thin line cut around neck.
H. 7.0 cm. L. 10.5 cm. Light brown. No. So I 19.
FS. Trench 1. 3 II/Ca. E 34. H. 16.10 m. Maurya L.33

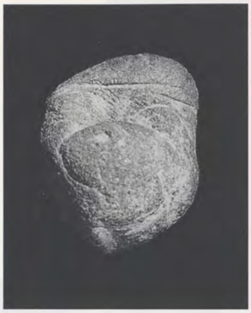
15. Head of an animal without ears, horns or any other identification marks. Eyes entirely pierced. A hole also in tip of mouth or beak.
H. 3.5 cm. L. 3.6 cm. Colour: light brown. No. So I 18.
FS. Trench 1. 3 II/Ca. E 35. H. 16.10 m Maurya. L.33

16. Head and shoulder of a bird. Eyes incised as a circle with pricked pupil.
H. 5.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3617.
FS. 2 IV 13.1/Cc 4.4, H. 15.60 m. Maurya. L.33

17. Head of an animal with pointed mouth or bill. Eyes pierced. A transverse hole near the tip of mouth for fastening a string.
H. 3.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1953.
FS. 3 I 11.3/Ca 16.5, H. 15.85 m (on edge of well 2).
Maurya. L.34

18. Head of a bird. Plain with pointed mouth of beak. Perforation for fastening a string. A circular spot indicates that the eyes may have been applied.
H. 5.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3478.
FS. 2 IV 15.5–16.9/Cc 4.0–7.9, H. 16.15–16.00 m.
Late Maurya/Early Śuṅga C.P., L.32/31

19. Head and chest of a bird. Bill slightly open. Eyes applied in form of a ring.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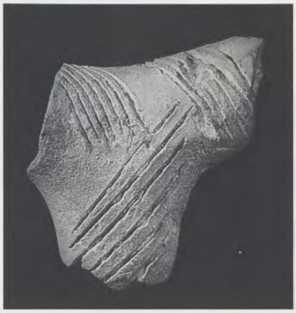
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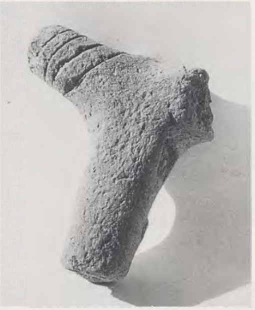
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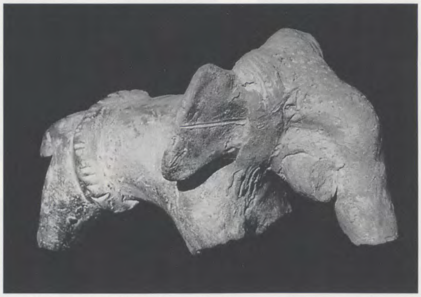
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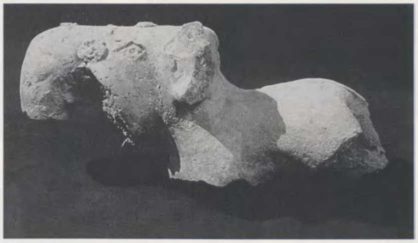
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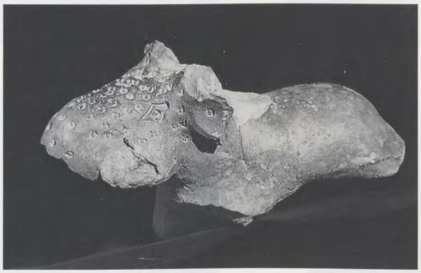
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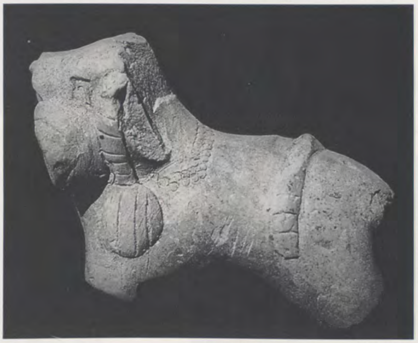
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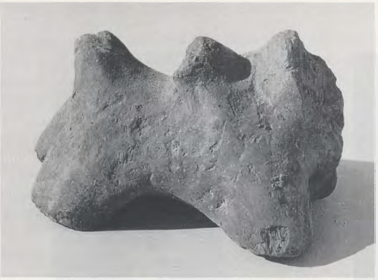
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period I (1, 2, 3), Period II (4, 5, 6, 7)



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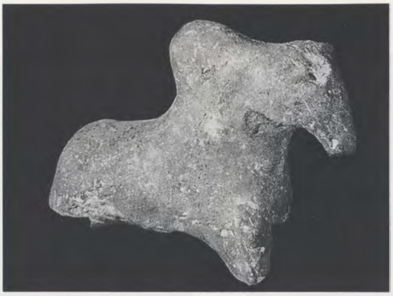

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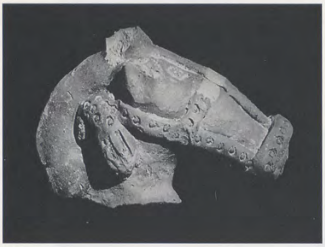

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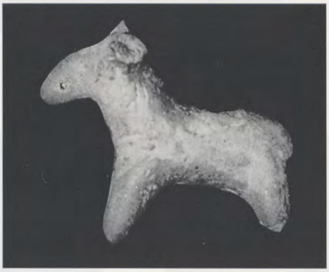

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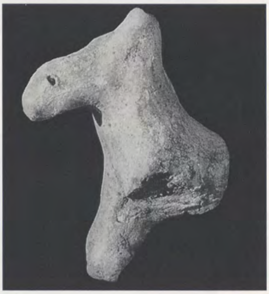

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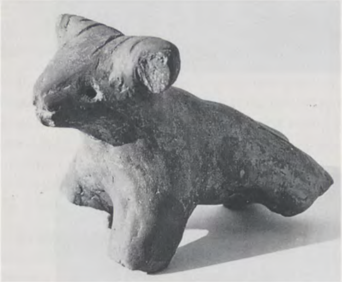

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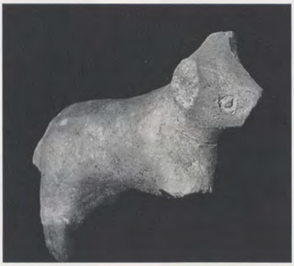

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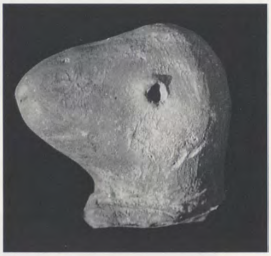

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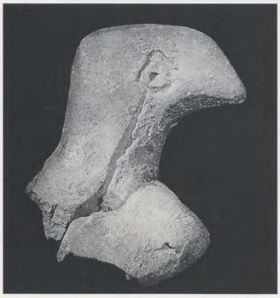

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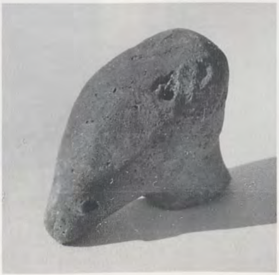

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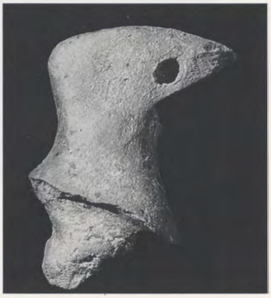

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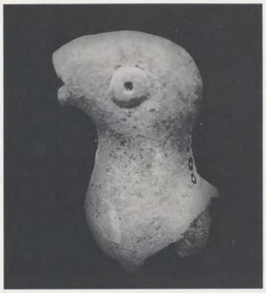
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period II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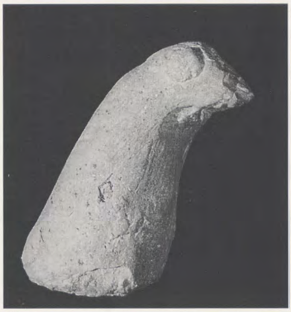
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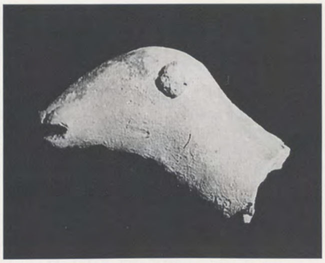
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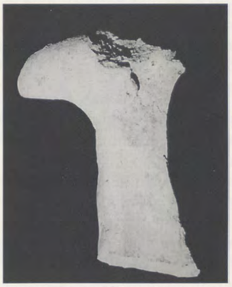
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Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period II

H. 4.5 cm. Colour: reddish. No. So III A 1660.
FS. 3 II 1.0/Ca 17.0, H. 16.85–16.60 m. Śuṅga C.P., L.31

20. Fragment of a snake? Tapering body, small pointed head. Eyes applied as discs with circular punch. Long neck shows vertical striations in front.
H. 6.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3351.
FS. 2 IV 13.0–18.25/Cc 5.0–6.5, H. 16.90–16.75 m.
Early Mitra. L.29

21. Head and neck of an animal. Mouth slightly open. Eyes applied in shape of a disc.
L. 4.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1563.
FS. 3 II 2.0–5.0/Ca 17.1–19.5, H. 17.40–17.15 m.
Early Mitra. L.29

22. Fragment of a camel? Head and long neck. Part of eyes and ears broken off.
H. 4.9 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1711.
FS. 3 I 6.5–10.0/Ca 14.2–18.8, H. 17.50–17.20 m.
Early Mitra. L.29

Period III. Terracotta Animals from Levels 28 to 24

23. Fragment of head of a decorated elephant. Eyes are formed by convex discs within incised lozenges. Tusks broken off. Ears applied. Preserved part of head-collar shows one horizontal and one vertical band in the shape of adversifolious twigs.
H. 3.7 cm. L. 5.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3460.
FS. 2 IV 12.7–13.6/Cc 2.0–4.5, H. 17.35–17.10 m.
Early Mitra. L.28

24. Fragment of head of a decorated elephant. Eyes incised as lozenges, pupils pricked. Right tusk broken off. Head-collar consisting of three horizontal and one vertical moulded band with geometrical pattern. Ears damaged.
H. 4.2 cm. L. 7.0 cm. Red-brown. No. So III A 3277.
FS. 2 IV 14.0–15.5/Cc 3.0–9.0, H. 17.35–17.20 m.
Early Mitra. L.28
Note: One further head of same type registered under So III A 1042.

25. Head of a decorated elephant. Eyes surrounded by incised lozenges. Circular ears. One vertical moulded and decorated band applied on forehead and down to the breakpoint of the trunk.
H. 4.2 cm. L. 7.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3276.
FS. 2 IV 14.0/Cc 3.0, H. 17.20 m. Early Mitra. L.28

26. Trunk of elephant.
L. 8.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2320.
FS. 3 I 7.0–9.0/Ca 9.4–10.4, H .18.10–17.85 m.
Mitra. L.27

27. Fragment of mutilated decorated elephant with remains of a rider (mahout). Head defaced. Along the thighs and legs decorative moulded bands.
H. 10.2 cm. L. 9.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2278.
FS. 3 I 2.3/Ca 11.6, H. 18.30 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: Further specimens of this type registered as finds nos. So III A 1065; 3000.

28. Mutilated elephant. Head in horizontal position, trunk presumably raised. Large round ears with a moulded rosette as decoration on the head. Traces of two decorated straps encircling the animal's body.
H. 8.7 cm. L. 12.0 cm. Red-brown. No. So III A 3292.
FS. 2 III 19.5–2 IV 0.5/Cc 1.9–9.5, H. 18.15–18.00 m.
Mitra. Ca L.26

Note: Further specimens of the type of no. 28 registered as finds nos. So III A 149; 195; 242; 249; 2075.

29. Undecorated elephant. Trunk and legs broken off. Eyes framed by incised lozenges, pupils pricked. Ears round. Body and head finely shaped.
H. 8.1 cm. L. 11.0 cm. Red-brown. No. So III A 2211.
FS. 3 I 9.0/Ca 14.2, H. 18.10 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: Further specimens of type of no. 29 registered as finds nos. So III A 415; 3060; 3068.

30. Back of an elephant with wagging tail. Traces of an applied decorated band.
H. 10.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2612.
FS. 2 V 13.0/Ca 6.6, H. 18.10 m. Mitra. L.27

31. Elephant with traces of a rider (mahout). Raised head damaged. Thighs and legs decorated with oblong chains of pinholes.
H. 7.3 cm. L. 9.5 cm. Colour: grey, black slip.
No. So III A 3669. FS. 2 V 8.5/Cc 8.3, H. 18.35 m.
Mitra. L.26. May originate from an earlier level.

32. Mutilated elephant. Legs and trunk broken off. Ears integrated with the upright forehead. Eyes applied. Traces of tusks. Sharp crest running from neck to tail.
H. 8.5 cm. L. 18.1 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1955.
FS. 3 I 5.0/Ca 15.8, H. 19.80 m. Late Mitra. L.25

33. Fragment of an elephant's saddle with pinhole decoration.
H. 4.1 cm. L. 3.1 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 3325.
FS. 2 V 13.0/Cb 14.35 , H. 18.90 m. Late Mitra. L.25

34. Head of a horse with head-collar consisting of crosswise applied bands. Small bulgy head-dress on top, small ears, roundish mouth. Eyes incised as a simple slanting stroke.
H. 5.1 cm. L. 5.3 cm. Red-brown. No. So III A 3308.
FS. 2 V 12.8–14.0/Cc 6.7–9.5, H. 17.20–17.05 m.
Early Mitra. L.28

35. Horse with rider. Oversized neck. Head decorated with a head-collar consisting of applied straps in the shape of adversifolious twigs. Same sort of bands in front of right leg and behind the rider. Eyes incised as a slanting stroke. On top an upright bulge of mane. Head of rider broken off, his arms are fastened to the horse's neck.
H. 15.6 cm. L. 11.8 cm. Light brown. No. So I 320.
FS. 2 IV 3.3/Be 18.0, H. 19.80 m. Mitra. L.27

36. Head of horse. Decorated with head-collar of crossing adversifolious twig-bands. A large disc covers one of the cross-points. Small ears. Upright bulge of hair on top.
H. 8.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3306.
FS. 2 IV 18.0/Cc 7.5, H. 17.20 m. Early Mitra. L.28

37. Horse with head-collar like no. 35. Adversifolious twigs around neck and on back. Small ears, eyes framed by lozenges. Originally perhaps with rider, now missing.
H. 13.5 cm. L. 12.0 cm. Light brown. No. So I 246.
FS. 3 I 6.0/Ca 16.7, H. 17.90 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: Further specimens of horses of the type of nos. 35 and 37 are registered as finds nos. So III A 25; 298; 1452; 2241; 2246; 2581; 2721; 3043; 3044; 3100; 3275; 3282; 3290; 3331.

38. Mutilated horse with arched and crested neck. Eyes in lozenges. Traces of decorative bands only.
H. 9.4 cm. L. 11.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3408.
FS. 2 V 17.0/Cb 16.9, H. 18.25 m. Mitra. L.27

Note: One more specimen of same type registered under So III A 2067.

39. Head of a horse without head-collar. Eyes in lozenges, extremely small ears. Finely modelled.
H. 2.3 cm. L. 6.4 cm. Light brown. No. So III A 2891.
FS. 2 IV 10.45/Be 19.0, H. 20.40 m. Mitra. L.26

40. Head of a horse with head-collar and hair bulge between ears. Applied bands of collar plain with patchy ends. Eyes shaped as lozenges with prick. Pierced nostrils.
H. 7.4 cm. L. 8.0 cm. Colour: light brown. No. So I 274.
FS. 2 V 10.9/Ca 15.0, H. 19.30 m. Late Mitra. L.25

41. Crested horse. Small ears. Eyes applied. Mouth slightly open.
H. 6.2 cm. L. 8.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 374.
FS. 2 V 13.5/Cc 5.0, H. 18.88–18.65 m. Late Mitra. L.25

42. Mutilated humped bull. Part of mouth, horns and legs broken off. Eyes in incised lozenges. Horns showing parallel striation. Hump type 2.
H. 7.4 cm. L. 10.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3273.
FS. 2 IV 13.6/Cc 3.3, H. 17.32 m. Early Mitra. L.28

43. Humped bull. Left horn broken off. Eyes in lozenges. Tip of mouth pierced. Hump type 2; protruding straight from the neck.
H. 4.2 cm. L. 5.6 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3438.
FS. 2 IV 5.0/Cc 0.5, H. 17.90–17.70 m. Mitra. L.27

44. Humped bull. Hump type 3.
H. 7.5 cm. L. 9.0 cm. Colour: dirty. No. So III 1982.
FS. 3 I 8.3/Ca 11.8, H. 19.10 m. Mitra. L.26

45. Small humped bull. Hump type 4.
H. 2.8 cm. L. 3.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2474.
FS. 2 V 14.2/Ca 3.6, H. 19.15 m. Mitra. L.26/25
Note: Further specimens of this conspicuously small type of bull in Mitra levels are registered as find nos. So III A 1980; 2196; 2197; 2204; 2774.

46. Humped bull with damaged head. Hump type 5.
H. 4.6 cm. L. 7.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 3319.
FS. 2 V 2.5–5.0/Cb 9.5–12.5, H. 18.70–18.50 m.
Late Mitra. L.25

47. Humped bull with slightly opened mouth. Hump type 1.
H. 5.4 cm. L. 6.7 cm. Blackened. No. So III A 1751.
FS. 3 I 1.6/Ca 8.8, H. 19.80 m. Late Mitra. L.25

48. Crouchant cow with splintering neck.
H. 7.8 cm. L. 8.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2422.
FS. 2 V 15.0/Ca 16.1, H. 19.30 m. Late Mitra. L.25

49. Three-legged monkey. Free-standing hand-made body and moulded face. Legs and arms partly broken off. A stiff tail serves as third leg. Face of unusual type: Eyes and nose form a deep-set triangle below narrow forehead. Eyes shaped as single circles, nose with large nostrils. Ears shown as two concentric rings. Three incised strands of hair cover the cheeks. The hair on the head is indicated by rows of punched holes. The back of the head is unmodelled and flat.
H. 10.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 322.
FS. 2 V 7.0/Ca 6.1, H. 18.42 m. Mitra. L.27

50. Three-legged monkey with hand-made body and moulded face. Left arm stretched sidewards, right one broken off. From left shoulder to right hip runs an *upavīta*-like ribbon. Similar plain ribbon is applied as a girdle. Legs broken away from thighs. Moulded face differs from that of no. 49. The rather large eyes consist of two concentric rings each. Two strokes are slantingly incised in the cheeks, indicating hair of the beard (cp. nos. 49; 53 ff.). The hair on the head is laid in parallel vertical strands. The back of the head is unmodelled and flat.
H. 10.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 326.
FS. 2 V 10.3/Ca 14.5, H. 18.35 m. Mitra. L.27

51. Three-legged monkey. Body hand-made, face moulded. Right arm broken off. Extremely long left arm reaching downward touching the genitals with the hand. Third leg on the flat back partly broken away. The moulded face is worn, eyes and hair seem to be similar to no. 50, but the lower jaw is put forward.
H. 13.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 368.
FS. 3 I 0.2/Cb 1.4, H. 18.00 m. Mitra. L.27

52. Head of a monkey. Well-cut face with lower jaw sticking out. Low forehead, large eyes shown as elevated lids and eyeballs. Triangular nose with marked nostrils. Three strands of hair cover the cheeks like creases. Flat thick lips. Hair worn, originally arranged in vertical strands. Clay mixed with mica.
H. 4.5 cm. D.3.7 cm. Red with mica. No. So I 281.
FS. 2 V 12.7/Ca 4.5, H. 18.46 m. Mitra. L.27/26

53. Three-legged monkey with moulded face. Arms and legs (incl.third leg) broken off. Face of a third variety: Jaws sticking out, mouth slightly open showing a row of teeth. Three strands of hair are running slantingly from the eyes to the lower jaw. The eyes are given as elevated rings with hole. Hair is upturned. Circular ears applied to the sides of the head. Back flat.
H. 9.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 310.
FS. 2 IV 3.9/Be 15.2, H. 20.00 m. Mitra. L.27/26

54. Mutilated moulded head of a monkey with a tenon for insertion into the hand-made body. Eyes shaped as circles with central pellet. Right eye shows distinct rays radiating like eyelashes from the circle up to the double-lined brow. Between the eyebrows a hole is marked. Three nearly vertical strands of hair cover the cheeks. Jaws are sticking out, mouth is damaged. Above and along the narrow forehead rows of punched holes indicate hair.
H. 4.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 312.
FS. 2 V 6.5/Ca 3.5, H. 18.80 m. Mitra. L.26

55. Moulded head of a monkey. Eyes in shape of two concentric circles embedded in the cavity above the sticking out jaws. Three strands of hair covering the cheeks. Traces of a row of teeth in the mouth. Head-hair upturned in parallel locks.
H. 3.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 321.
FS. 2 V 7.5/Ca 6.5, H. 18.60 m. Mitra. L.26
Note: Further specimens of similar type of monkey heads registered as finds nos. So III A 1689; 3094; 3538; 3557; 3573; 3634.

56. Mould of a monkey's head. Eyes shaped as a ring with central pellet. Eyebrows dotted. Hair upturned. Two or three strands of hair on cheeks. Mouth slightly open, showing row of teeth.
H. 5.0 cm. Colour: brownish. No. So III A 531.
FS. Surface find. Out of context.

57. Head and neck of a parrot. Plain bulgy ring around beak. Eyes applied in shape of discs. Tuft of hair on top. Perforation behind beak-ring for fastening a string. Further plain ring around neck.
H. 5.2 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2358.
FS. 3 I 8.5/Ca 12.1, H. 17.85 m. Early Mitra. L.28

58. Bird with long-drawn body pierced for a wheel-axle. Pointed beak, crested head. Perforation through head, perhaps marking eyes and serving for fastening a string.

H. 5.5 cm. L. 7.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3230.
FS. 2 V 17.5/Cb 0.8, H. 18.05 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: More fragments of this type of toybird from Mitra levels registered as find nos. So III A 2974; 3113; 3283; 3338; 3441.

59. Fragment of a toybird pierced for wheel-axle. Short rounded beak and tufted head. Perforation for fastening a string, perhaps indicating eyes also.
H. 4.5 cm. L. 9.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3334.
FS. 2 IV 11.4–12.85/Cc 5.0–9.5, H. 17.70–17.55 m.
Mitra. L.27
Note: One more specimen of toybird of same type as no. 59 registered as So III A 2972.

60. Mutilated head of bird with pointed beak. Perforation for fastening a string.
H. 3.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3296.
FS. 2 IV 15.5–17.0/Cc 0.5–9.5, H. 17.50–17.35 m.
Early Mitra. L.28/27

61. Head of a bird with crested head. Eyes perforated.
H. 3.2 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3166.
FS. 2 V 4.03/Cb 8.19, H. 17.70 m. Mitra. L.27

62. Head of an animal. Lower jaw (?) broken off. Eyes applied in shape of flat discs.
H. 2.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3677.
FS. 2 V 6.9–10.7/Cb 14.0–16.5, H. 18.00–17.95 m.
Mitra. L.27

63. Head of an animal with perforation for the eyes. Applied ears. Small hole in tip of mouth.
H. 4.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2988.
FS. 2 IV 4.5/Be 19.0, H. 19.35 m . Early Mitra. L.28

64. Fragment of two-humped camel. Mouth and left hind leg broken off.
H. 12.4 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2373.
FS. 3 I 1.4/Cb 4.5, H. 18.35 m. Mitra. L.27/26
Note: One more specimen of two-humped camel registered under So III A 3670 (L.26)

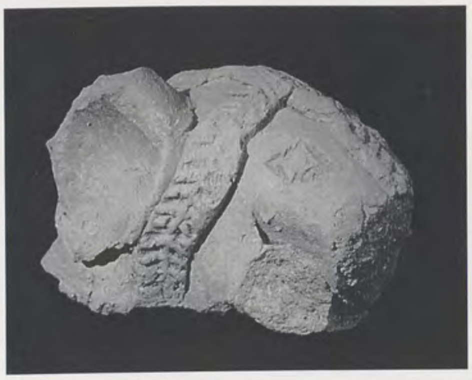
65. Uplifted head of a camel with slightly opened mouth. Pierced eyes framed by a lozenge.
H. 3.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2953.
FS. 2 IV 7.7–10.2/Be 16.4–19.0, H. 19.52–19.40 m.
Early Mitra. L.28/27

66. Head of an animal (camel?). Plain neck and head with small slits as eyes and applied small discs as ears. Mouth slightly open.
H. 2.7 cm. L. 3.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 3663.
FS. 2 III 13.0–17.1/Cc 6.65–8.15, H. 18.63–18.50 m.
Mitra. L.26

67. Fragment of a camel. Head and legs missing. Between hump and tail a bulgy band covering the rear part.
H. 3.7 cm. L. 6.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2604.
FS. 2 V 14.0–3 I 0.5/Ca 16.8–18.0, H. 18.90–18.65 m.
Mitra. L.26

68. Mutilated animal (deer?). Legs broken off. Upturned horns (?), elevated eyes.
H. 4.4 cm. L. 5.7 cm. Grey. No. So III A 3654.
FS. 3 I 1.5–1.9/Cb 18.5–19.4, H. 18.10–17.95 m.
Mitra. L.27

69. Boar (?) with prominent head and short legs. Eyes punched as holes, nostril and mouth marked in tip of muzzle. Ears broken off.
H. 5.9 cm. L. 9.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 3234.
FS. 2 III 18.5–19.5/Cc 0.5–9.1, H. 18.90–18.60 m.
From Level 26, but found on the edge of a ditch, therefore a slightly later origin possible.



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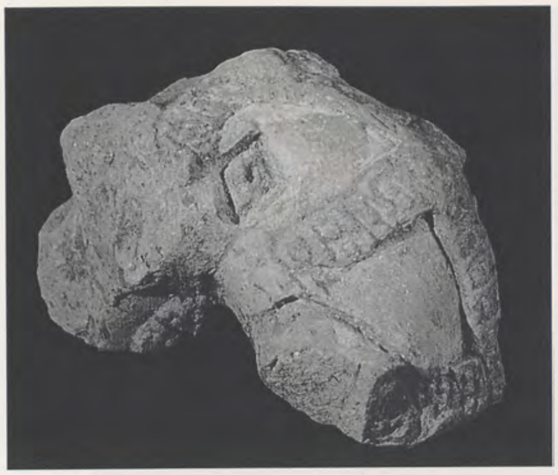

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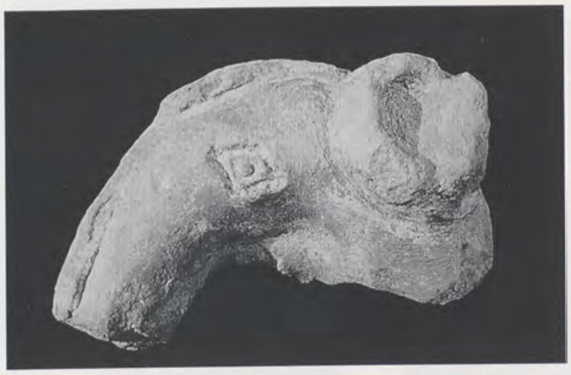

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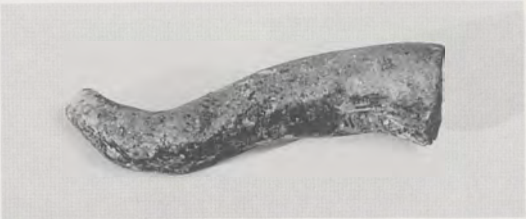

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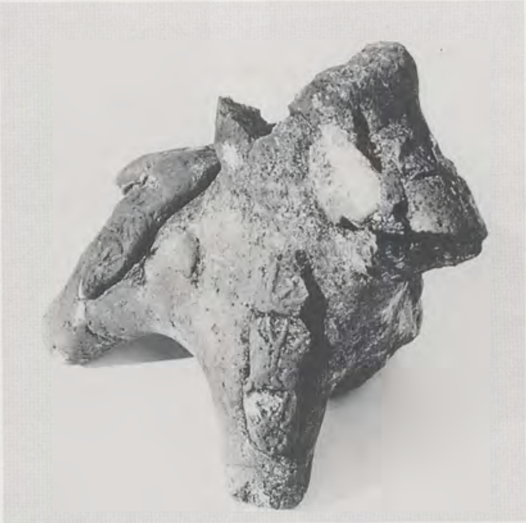

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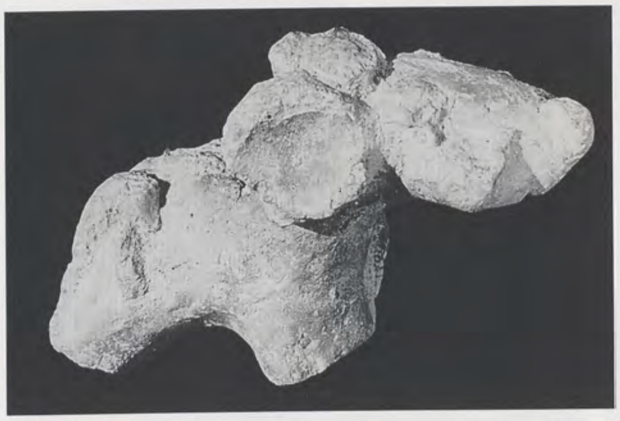

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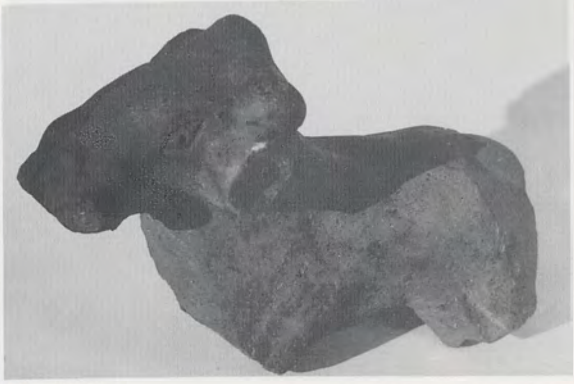

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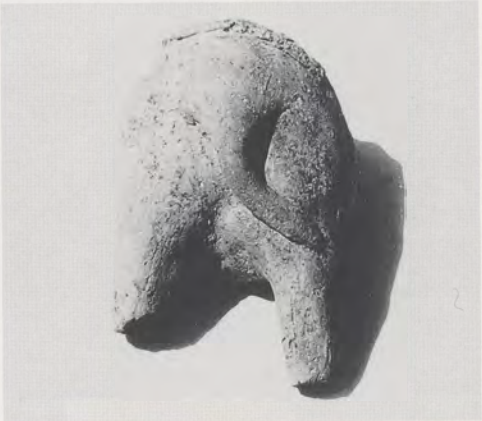

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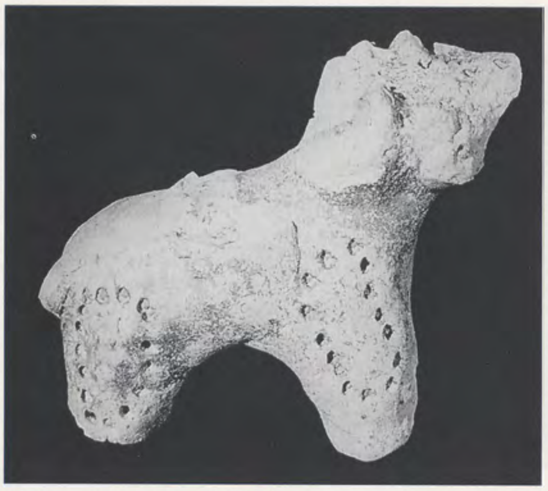
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period III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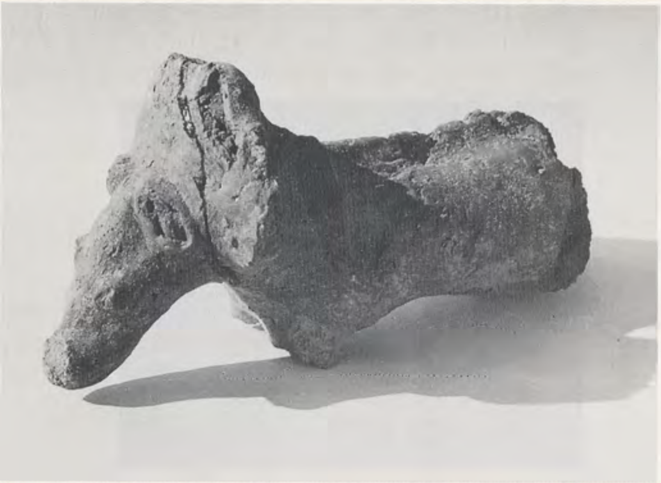
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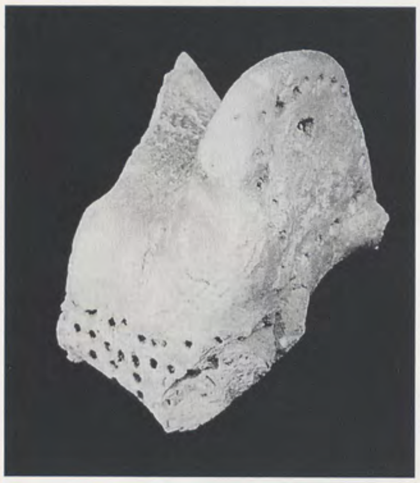
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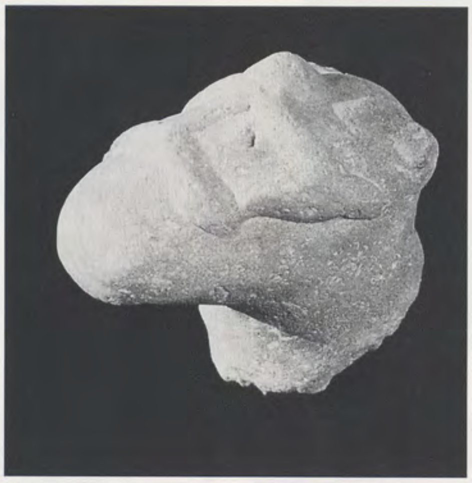
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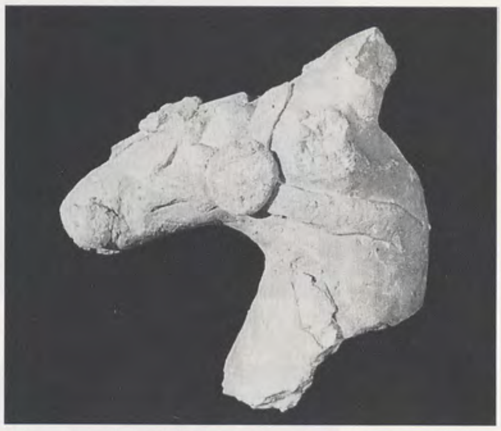
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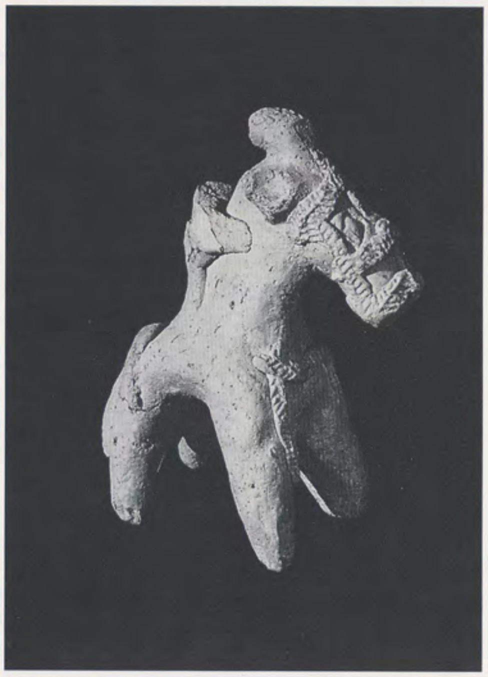
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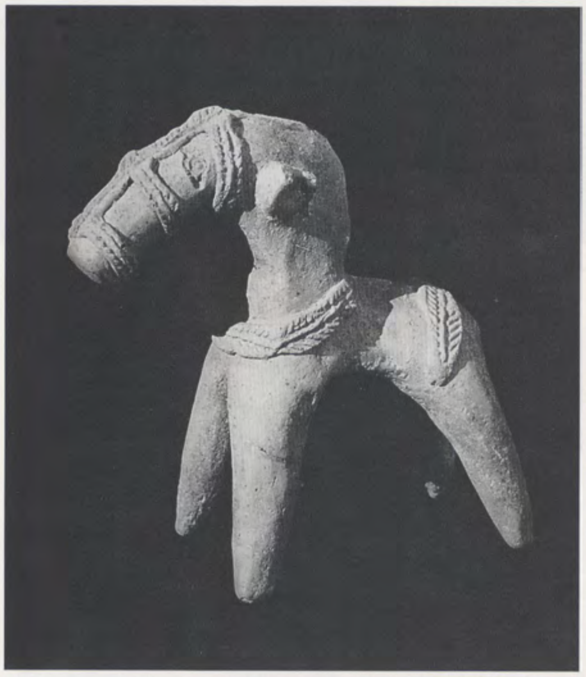
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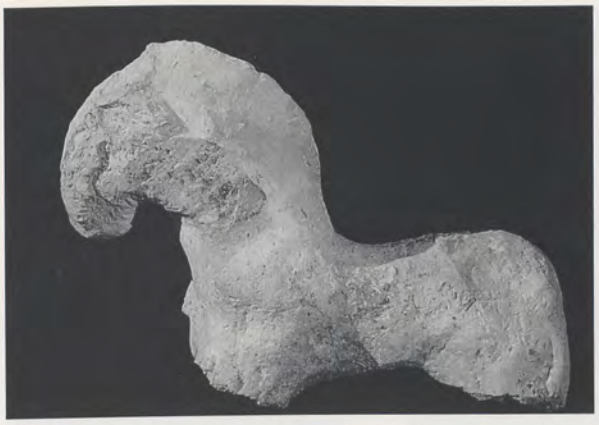
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period III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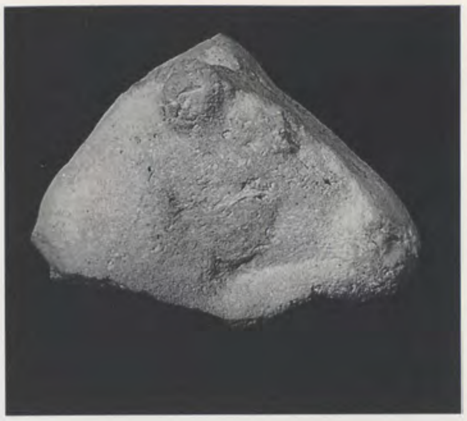
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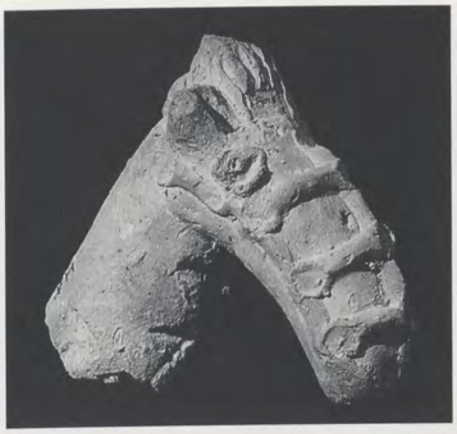
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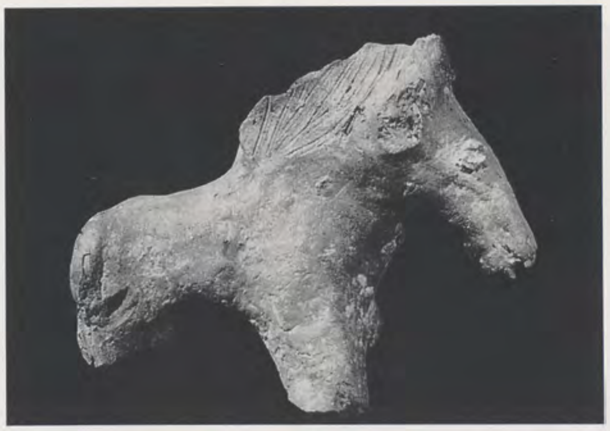
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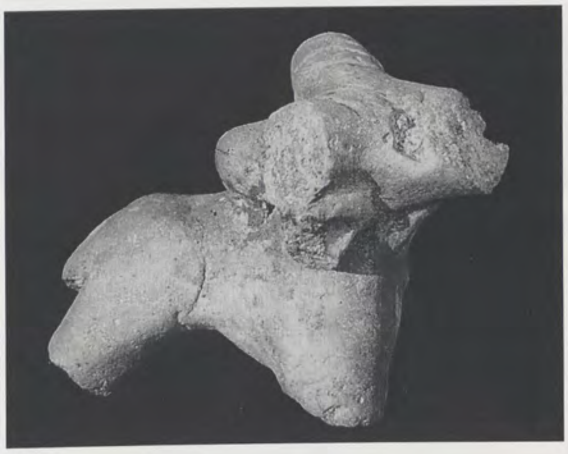
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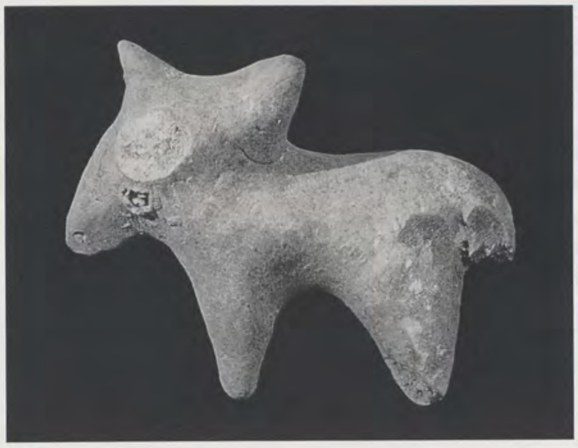
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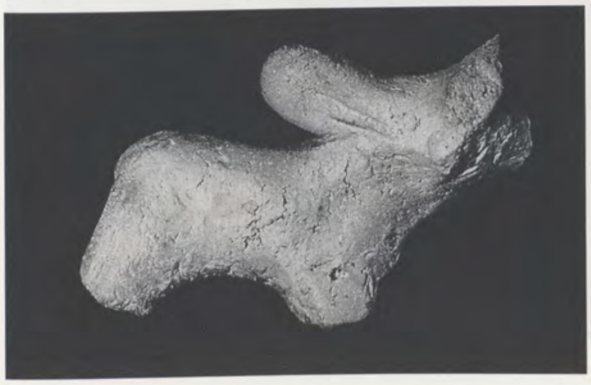
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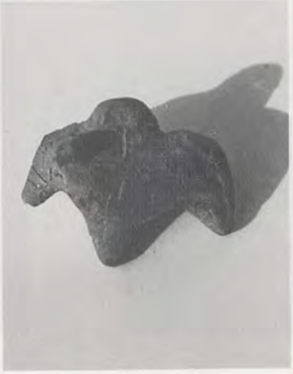
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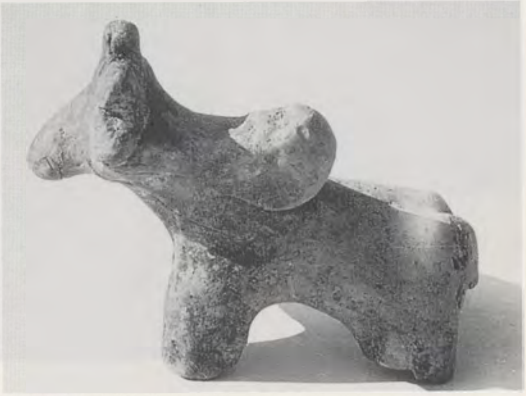
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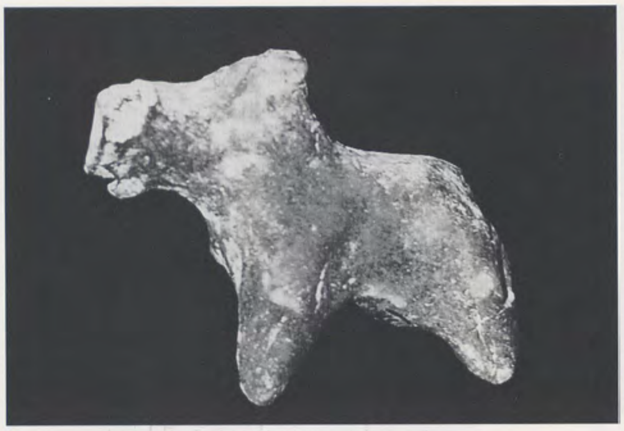
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period III



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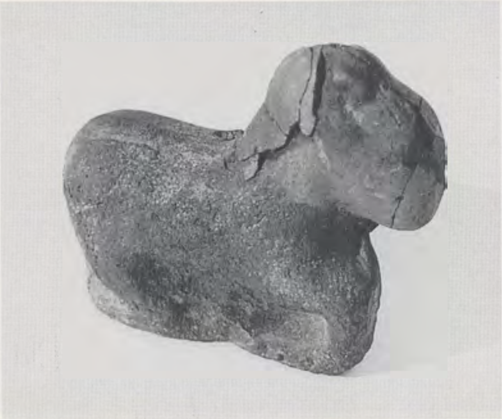

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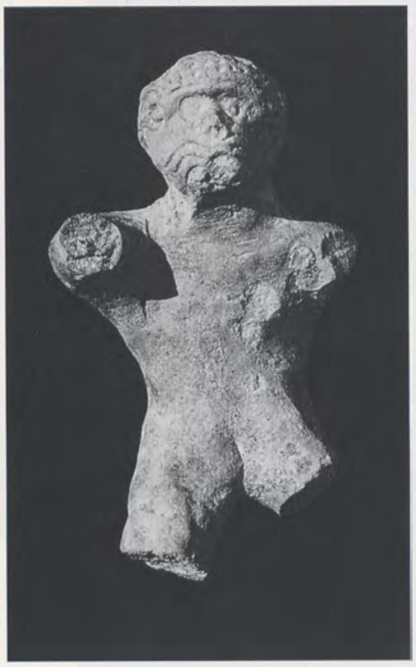

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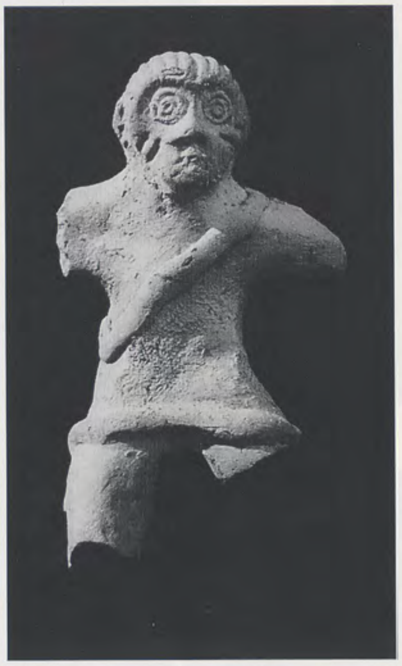

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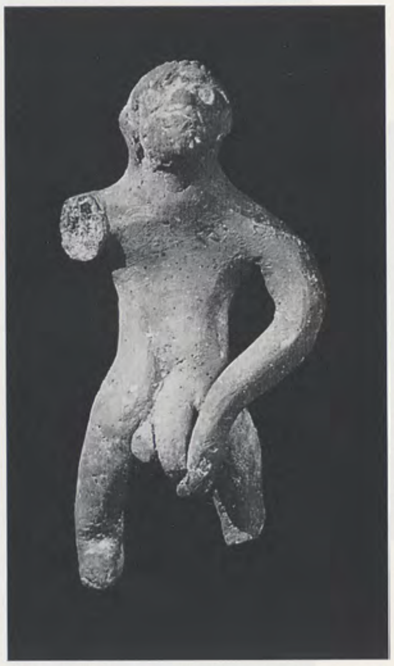

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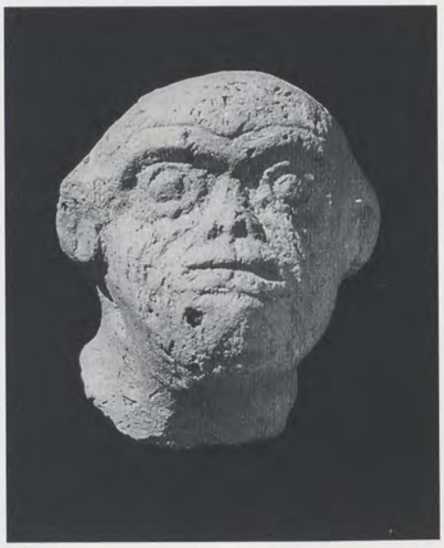

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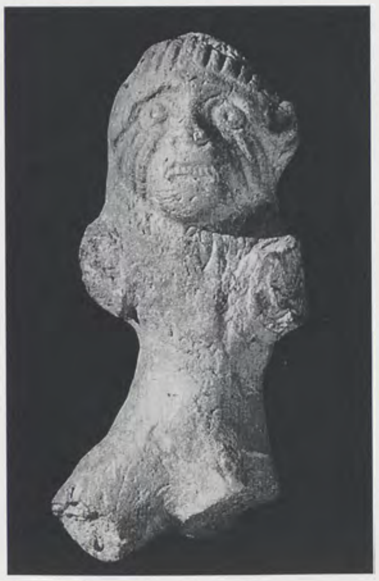

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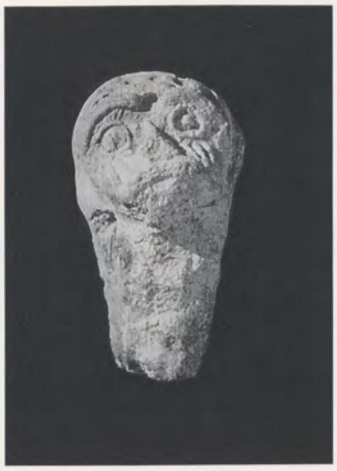
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period III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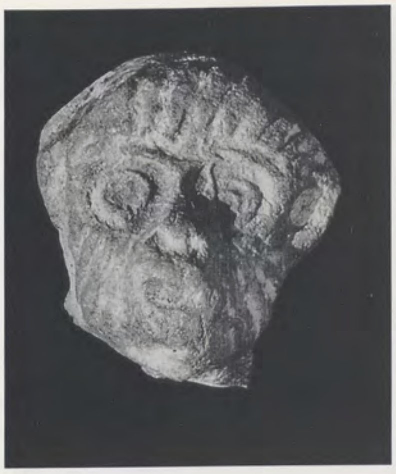
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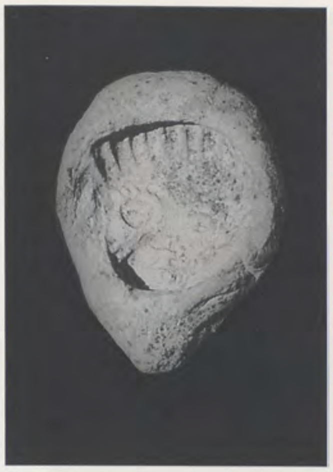
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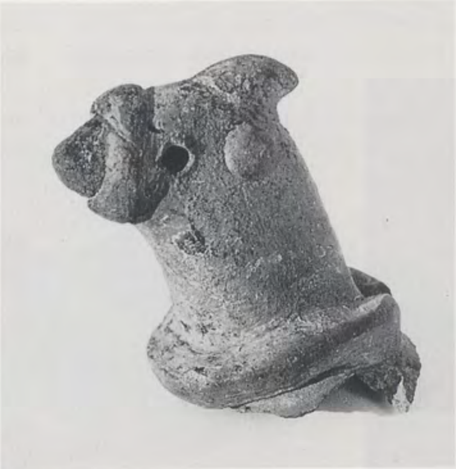
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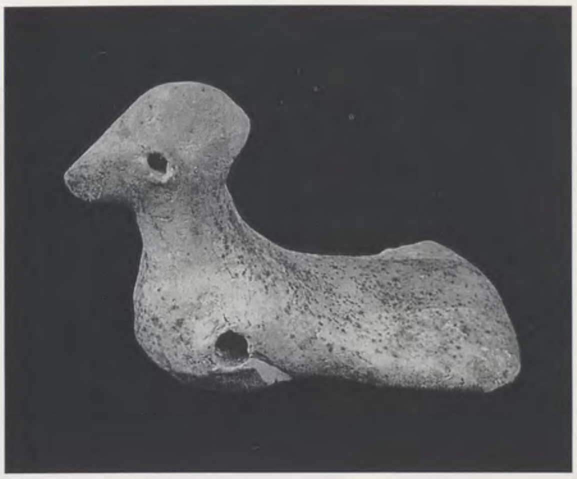
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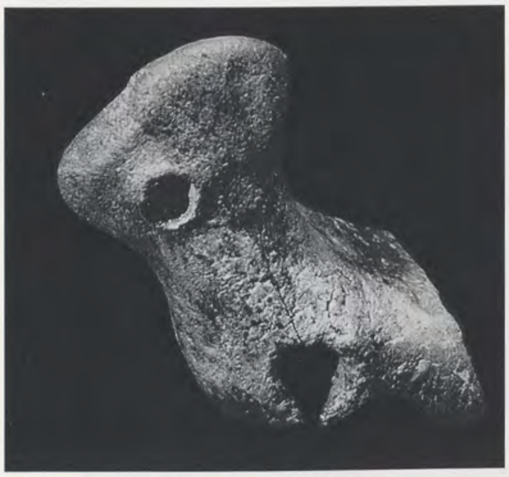
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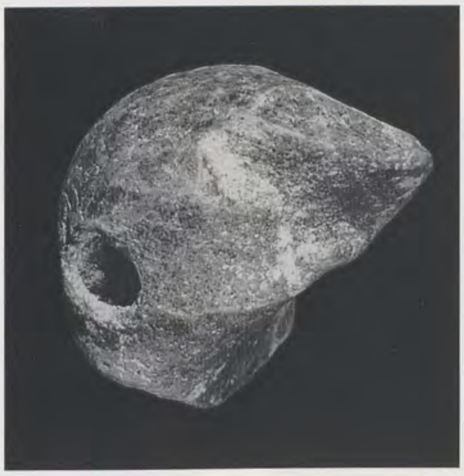
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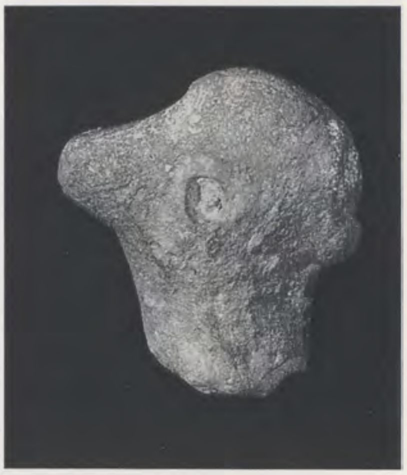
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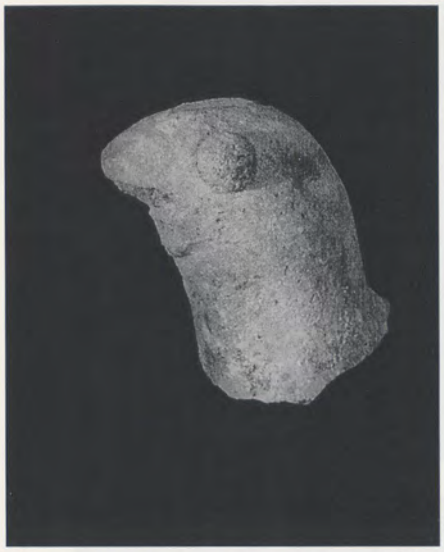
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period III



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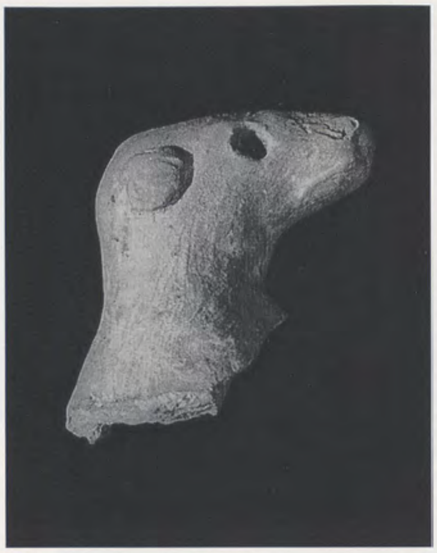

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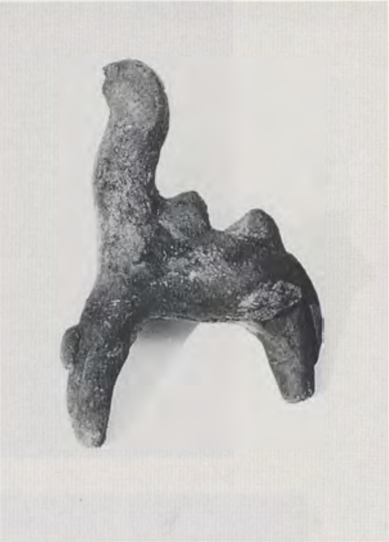

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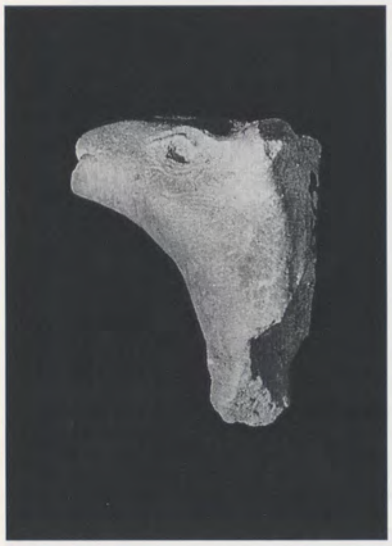

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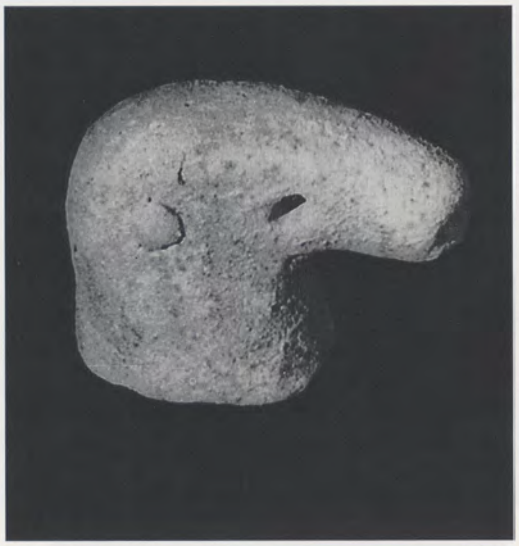

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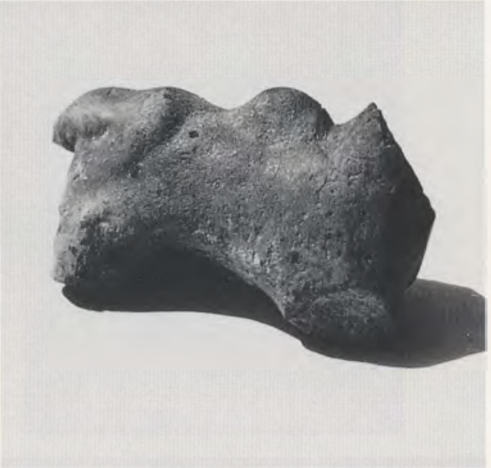

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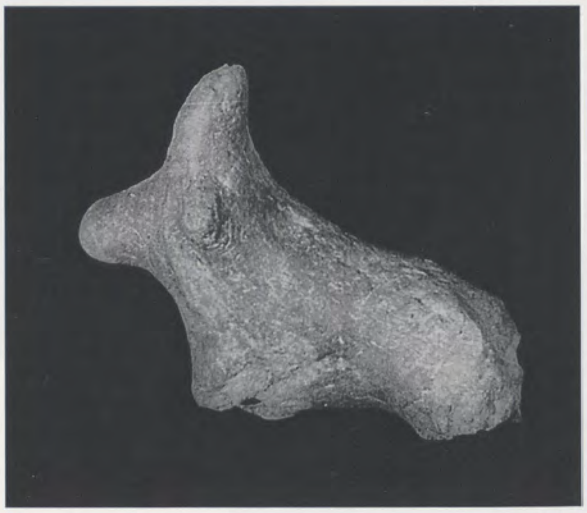

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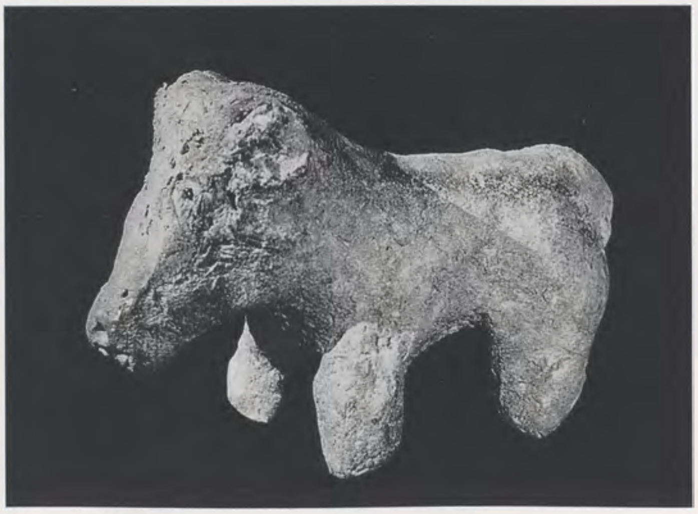

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Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period III

Period IV. Terracotta Animals from Levels 24 to 22

70. Fragment of an elephant. Mouth, trunk, tusks and legs broken off. Eyes lenticular with central pellet. Body plain.
H. 6.9 cm. L. 11.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2662.
FS. 2 V 3.0/Ca 0.5, H. 19.90 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: One more specimen registered as find no. So III A 2720.

71. Elephant. Trunk and head-bulges missing. Tusks broken off in their root-sheaths. Eyes punched as small holes with thrown up edges.
H. 4.7 cm. L. 7.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3040.
FS. 2 IV 18.3/Ca 7.0, H. 20.90 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

72. Fragment of an elephant. Part of head and back. Bulgy skull. Traces of tusks. Eyes on lozenges within incised ellipse. Vertical row of punched holes from forehead to the fracture point of the trunk. Two such shallow holes above both eyes also.
H. 5.3 cm. L. 9.4 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2311.
FS. 2 V 1.2/Ca 6.0, H. 20.50 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

73. Headless fragment of an animal (elephant?). Body heavily stamped with an early Kuṣāṇa decorative pattern as found on the pottery often.
H. 7.0 cm. L. 8.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 3251.
FS. 2 IV 10.95–16.8/Ca 6.4–8.3, H. 20.60–20.35 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23

74. Decorated horse with oversized neck. Applied head-collar consisting of differently patterned bands arranged crosswise, not in the parallel fashion of Mitra horses. Pointed tuft on top of head. Eyes given as punctured discs. Ears applied. One adversifolious band standing up on rear part.
H. 16.1 cm. L. 13.3 cm. Brown. No. So III A 3548.
FS. 2 III 16.8/Cc 8.9, H. 19.70 m.
Kṣatrapa/Early Kuṣāṇa. L.23/22

75. Headless horse decorated with one rosette each applied to the thighs of the four legs.
H. 10.5 cm. L. 8.7 cm. Brown. No. So III A 3398.
FS. 2 III 17.7/Cc 9.2, H. 19.70 m.
Kṣatrapa/Early Kuṣāṇa. L.23/22

76. Moulded figure of a horse. Made by use of two moulds. Details worn. Area between legs closed by a thin layer of clay.
H. 7.7 cm. L. 6.8 cm. Grey, white paint. No. So III A 2017.
FS. 3 I 0.1/Ca 9.5, H. 20.70 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

77. Fragment of a small horse with arched neck and crest. Head damaged.
H. 4.8 cm. L. 3.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1118.
FS. 3 II 5.0–9.5/Ca 16.0–17.7, H. 20.68–20.28 m.
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

78. Humped bull with damaged head. Hump type 6.
H. 4.0 cm. L. 4.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1906.
FS. 3 I 0.5–6.5/Ca 16.7–18.0, H. 20.15–19.75 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.(25)/24.
Note: Two more specimens of same type registered under So III A 2815; 3141.

79. Small humped bull. Neck perforated for fastening a string. Hump type 1.
H. 4.0 cm. L. 5.1 cm. Blackened. No. So III A 2971.
FS. 2 V 6.0–10.5/Cb 13.3–14.5, H. 19.35–19.25 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24.
Note: Five more specimens registered under So III A 2106; 2170; 2535; 2619; 2852.

80. Small humped bull. Hump type 7.
H. 3.5 cm. L. 3.75 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1624.
FS. 3 I 7.5–9.4/Ca 7.0–10.0, H. 20.60–20.30 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23

81. Humped bull. Hump type 2.
H. 6.8 cm. L. 6.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2873.
FS. 2 V 12.3/Cb 3.7, H. 19.25 m. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24.
Note: Four more specimens registered as So III A 1901; 2199; 2491; 3458.

82. Small humped bull. Muzzle broken off. Perforation through neck for fastening a string. Hump type 3.
H. 4.1 cm. L. 5.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2826.
FS. 2 V 7.9–9.9/Cb 16.15–18.35, H. 19.90–19.70 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23.
Note: Five more specimens of this type registered as find nos. So III A 2258; 2265; 2556; 2880; 3415.

83. Humped bull. Long stretched body. Hump type 3.
H. 3.7 cm. L. 6.6 cm. Light brown. No. So III A 2702.
FS. 2 V 0.5–10.5/Ca 9.5–10.5, H. 20.17–19.78 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

84. Humped bull. Hump type 8.
H. 4.4 cm. L. 6.4 cm. Grey-brown. No. So III A 3631.
FS. 2 V 9.5–10.5/Cb 19.5-Cc 9.5, H. 19.20–18.95 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: Three more specimens of same type registered as find nos. So III A 1709; 2146; 3186.

85. Mutilated buffalo. Long stretched body. Perforation through neck for fastening a string. Muzzle broken away.
H. 3.6 cm. L. 7.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3136.
FS. 2 IV 10.55/Cc 5.7, H. 19.45 m. Kṣatrapa L.23

86. Toybird with perforation for wheel-axle.
H. 6.3 cm. L. 8.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2213.
FS. 2 V 13.7/Ca 17.5, H. 19.70 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

87. Bird with outstretched wings. From a votive tank.
H. 2.8 cm. L. 5.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3178.
FS. 2 IV 14.0/Cc 4.5, H. 18.90 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

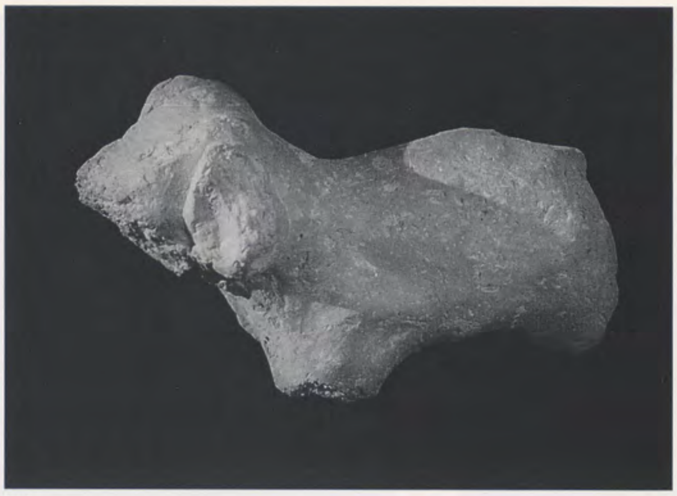
88. Head of a bird. Tip of beak broken off. Eyes depicted as large shallow holes.
H. 4.4 cm. L. 4.4 cm. Colour: greyish. No. So III A 2400.
FS. 2 V 6.5/Ca 11.1, H. 19.95 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

89. Head of a bird with semicircular crest.
H. 2.4 cm. L. 4.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2832.
FS. 2 V 2.6/Cb 10.5, H. 20.00 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

90. Head and neck of a bird. Beak sticks out of a hood. Intentionally pierced hole on neck.
L. 4.3 cm. Colour: greyish. No. So III A 2645.
FS. 2 V 0.5/Cb 4.5, H. 20.02 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

91. Head of indefinite animal. Perforation for eyes, mouth slightly open.
H. 5.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2291.
FS. 2 V 13.1/Ca 3.2, H. 19.90–19.55 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24

92. Unproportioned lion with oversized head and short legs. Eyes and nose applied, mouth notched. In centre of mouth a large round hole. Hair on forehead and neck incised as strokes.
H. 10.6 cm. L. 8.3 cm. Colour: grey-brown. No. So I 294.
FS. 2 V 9.7/Ca 13.5, H. 19.65 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24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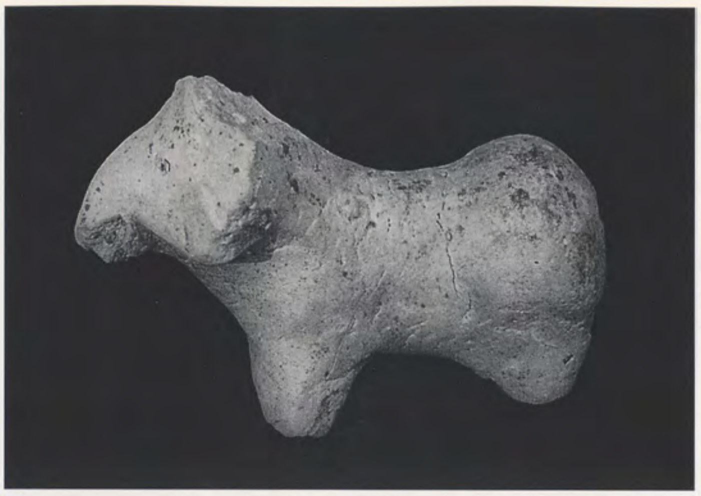
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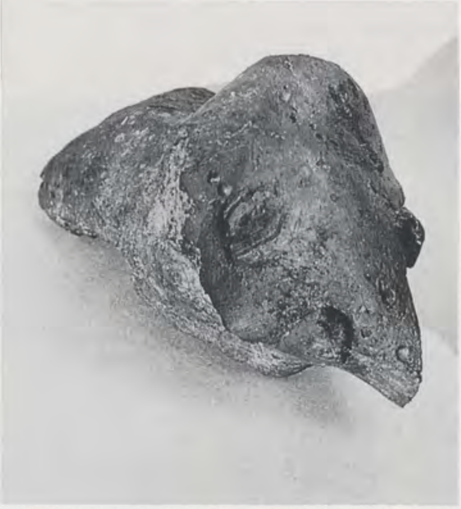
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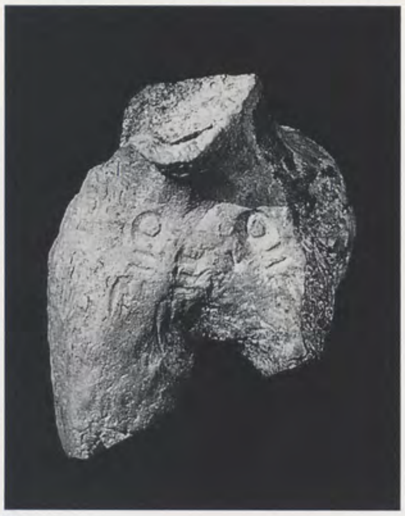
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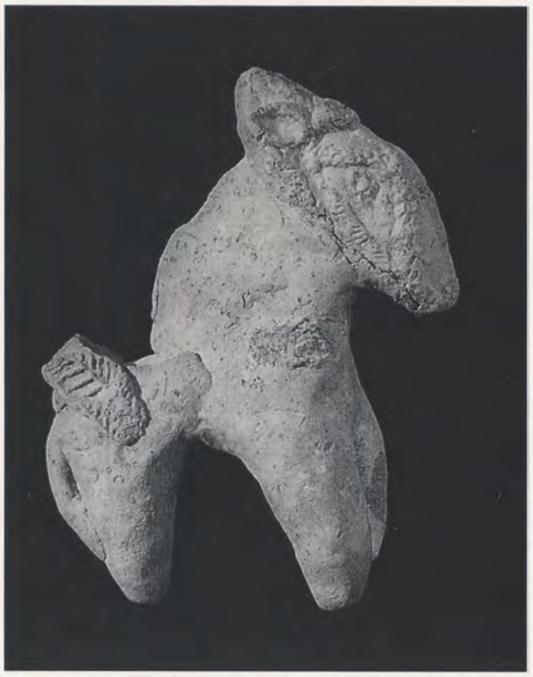
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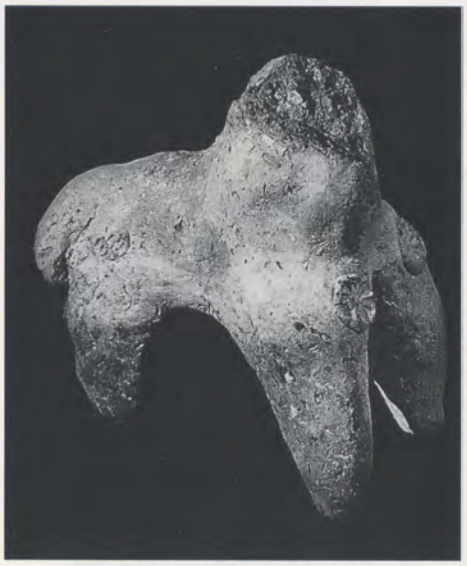
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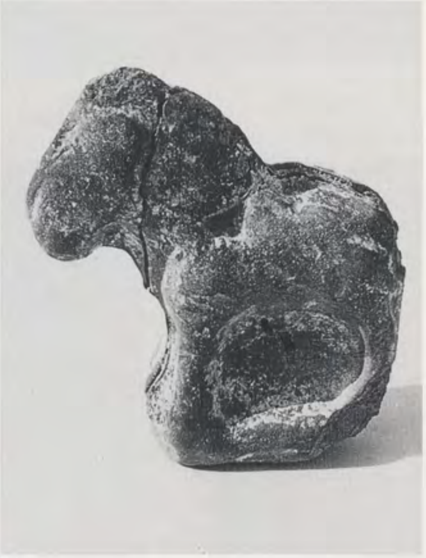
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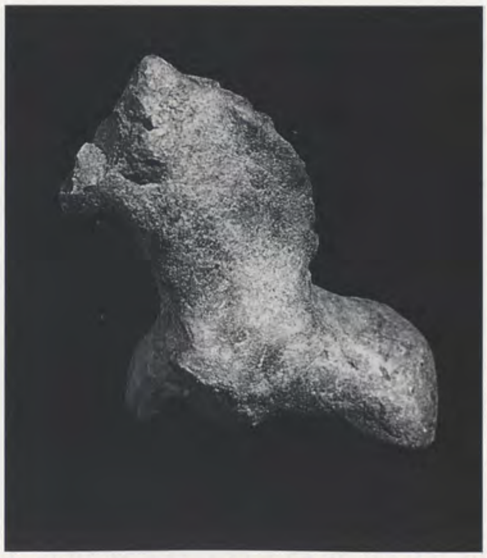
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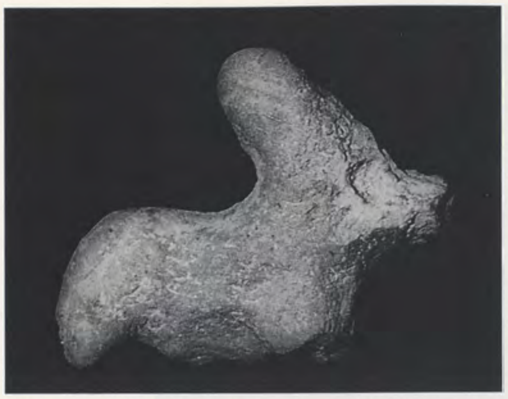
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period IV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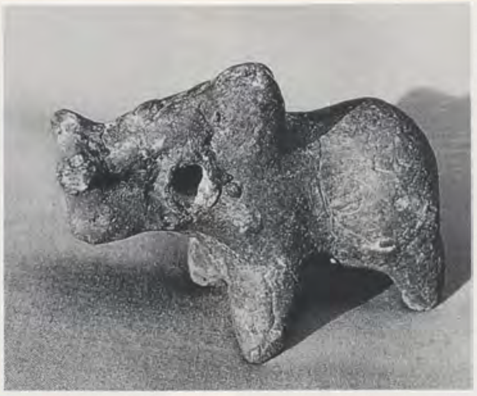
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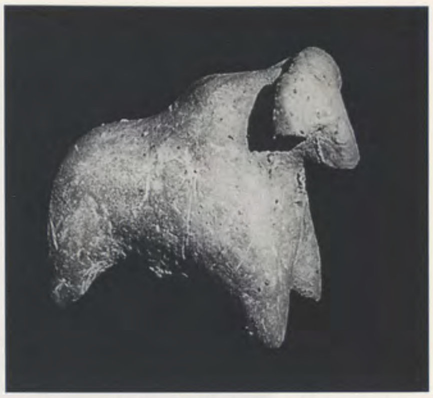
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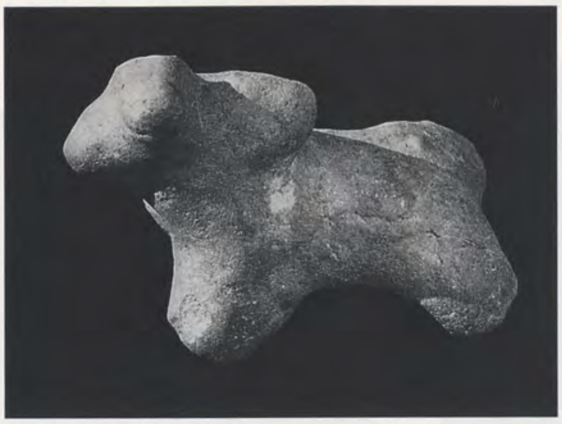
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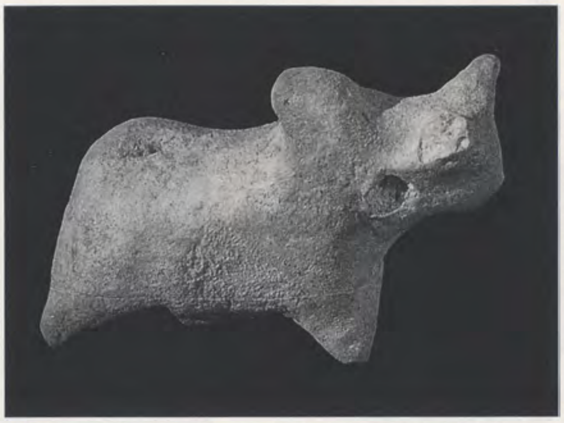
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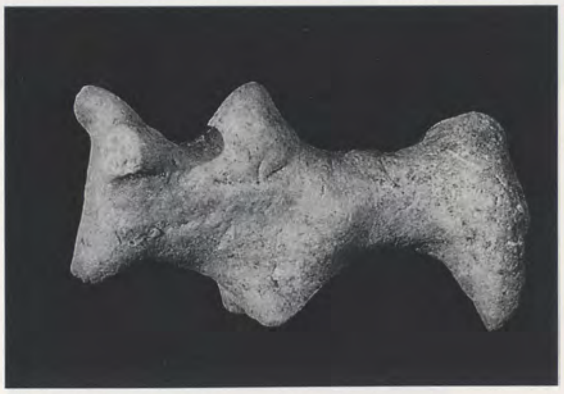
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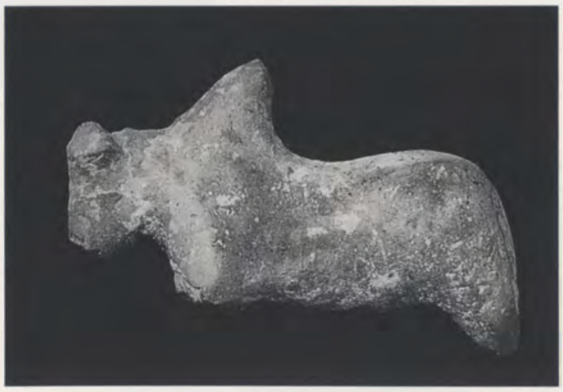
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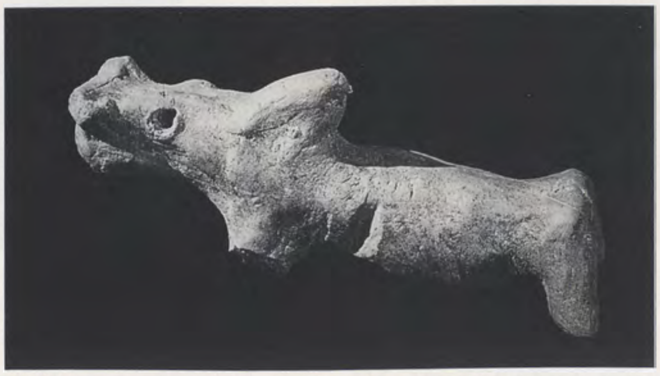
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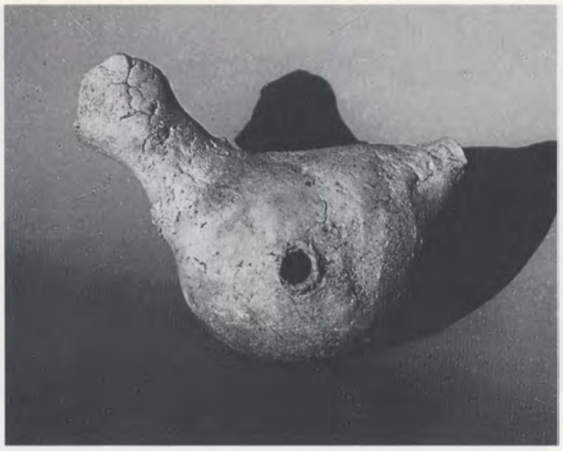
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period IV



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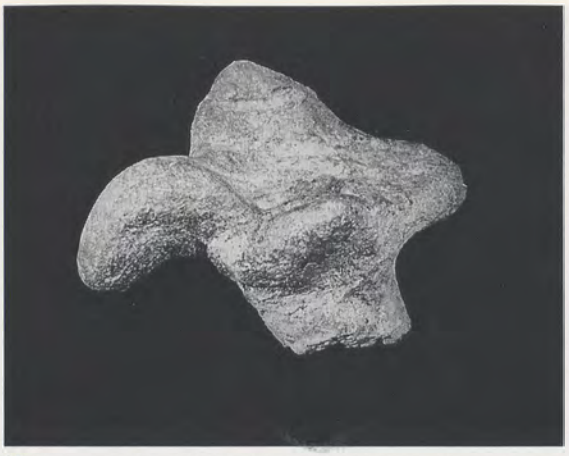

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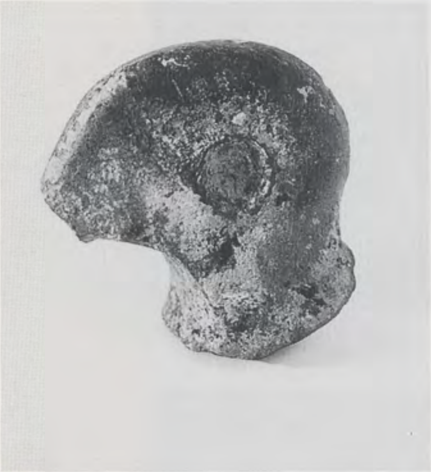

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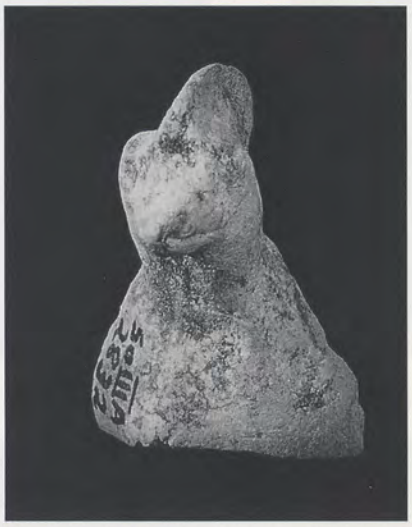

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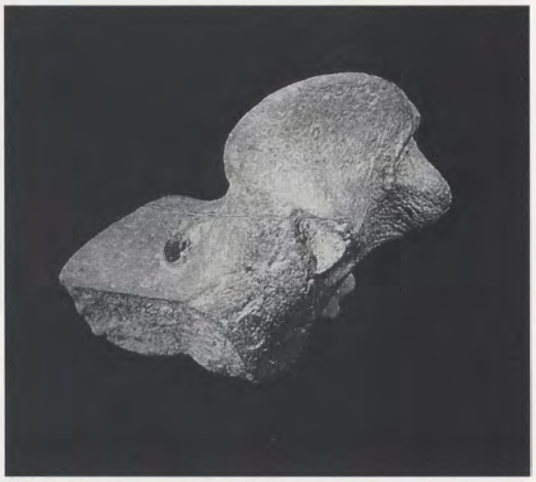

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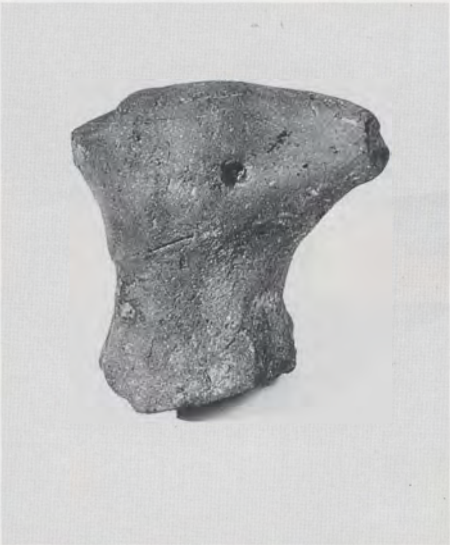

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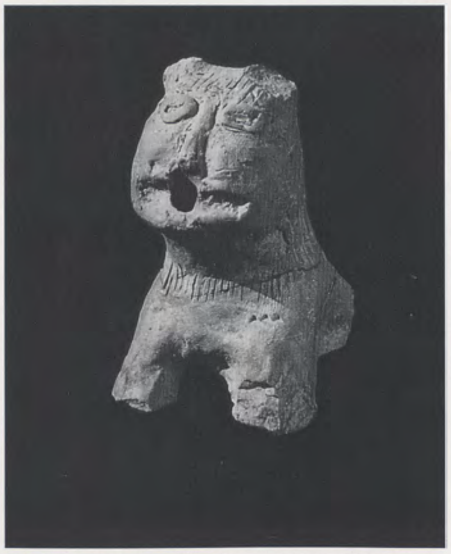

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Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period IV

Period V. Terracotta Animals from Levels 22 to 15

93. Frontal part of elephant with complete trunk. Eyes inserted as holes. Bulges on head standing upright, being perforated in the centre. Ears stretched sidewards. Root-sheath of tusks worn.
H. 9.4 cm. Colour: dirty brown. No. So III A 1250.
FS. 2 V 16.0–19.5/Ca 13.25–19.5, H. 22.05–21.75 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20

94. Trunk of an elephant with curved tip.
H. 9.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1132.
FS. 3 II 4.9–9.5/Ca 18.0–19.5, H. 21.28–20.78 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

95. Rear part of an elephant with elaborated tassel.
H. 5.7 cm. L. 5.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1873.
FS. 2 IV 4.2–6.2/Cb 16.6–19.5, H. 21.30–21.00 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

96. Fragment of an elephant. Bulgy part of head raised like a hood with perforation in its centre. Eyes seemingly circular with pellet. Root-sheaths of tusks worn. Trunk broken off halfways. On back markings of a saddle.
H. 7.3 cm. L. 12.0 cm. Colour: red, blackened by fire.
No. So III A 2070. FS. 2 IV 7.0/Ca 9.55, H. 22.85 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18

97. Head of a horse with arched neck. Short ears, eyes applied as discs. Mouth slightly open.
H. 4.0 cm. L. 5.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1030.
FS. 3 II 6.0–9.5/Ca 14.5–19.5, H. 21.48–21.18 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

98. Large buffalo. Two legs missing. Prominent hump. Eyes punched as circles, mouth slightly open. Ribbon around neck.
H. 16.0 cm. L. 18.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 303.
FS. 2 IV 5.85/Cb 4.8, H. 21.50 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

99. Small humped bull of unburnt clay. Small head, massive body. Hump with fracture. Hump type 5.
H. 4.2 cm. L. 5.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3145.
FS. 2 IV 9.5–10.5/Cb 2.0–9.5, H. 21.55–21.40 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

100. Small humped bull with pierced eyes and perforations through neck and hump. Hump type 1.
L. 4.3 cm. Brown, traces of pūjā paint. No. So III A 1476.
FS. 2 III 16.25–19.5/Ca 14.3–16.0, H. 22.30–22.00 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20

101. Humped bull with perforation for wheel axles instead of legs. Curved hump of type 2.
H. 4.2 cm. L. 7.65 cm. Dark grey. No. So III A 1387.
FS. 2 IV 0.5–6.0/Cb 15.5–17.0, H. 21.55–21.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

102. Humped bull. Head broken off. Hump type 6.
H. 6.0 cm. L. 7.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 958.
FS. 2 V 12.0–12.5/Ca 10.5–14.5, H. 22.60–22.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18
Note: Ten more specimens of this type registered as find nos. So III A 846; 894; 1293; 1393; 1831; 1850; 2539; 2727; 2784; 2879.

103. Humped bull. Perforation for eyes. Hump type 6.
H. 4.0 cm. L. 5.0 cm. Yellow-brown. No. So III A 835.
FS. 2 V 10.5–15.0/Cc 0.5–3.5, H. 23.20–22.80 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16.
Note: One more specimen registered as find no. So III A 1808.

104. Humped bull. Small perforation through mouth, a larger one through neck. Hump type 3.
H. 3.5 cm. L. 6.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3265.
FS. 2 IV 9.5–10.5/Be 19.5-Ca 0.5, H. 21.65–21.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21
Note: Four more specimens of same hump type registered as nos. So III A 1348; 2800; 2898; 2906.

105. Humped bull. Hump type 4 but perforated.
H. 5.5 cm. L. 7.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2087.
FS. 2 IV 19.6/Ca 0.8, H. 22.10 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

106. Humped bull. Hump type 1. Legs perforated for insertion of wheel axles.
H. 4.5 cm. L. 6.9 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3293.
FS. 2 III 18.6/Cb 15.5, H. 21.60 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21.
Note: One further specimen registered as find no. So III A 1550.

107. Forepart of a humped bull. Hump type 1.
H. 5.5 cm. L. 4.3 cm. Light brown. No. So III A 1160.
FS. 2 IV 2.0–9.5/Ca 6.0–9.5, H. 23.11–22.81 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18.
Note: Three more specimens of same type registered as finds nos. So III A 970; 2111; 2329.

108. Humped bull. Hump type 7.
H. 4.4 cm. L. 6.8 cm. Blackened by fire. No. So III A 656.
FS. 2 III 18.0–2 IV 1.5/Ca 7.5–9.5, H. 24.30–23.90 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

109. Fragment of a ram with remains of axle-holes through legs. Head mutilated.
H. 5.0 cm. L. 9.2 cm. Brown. No. So III A 2159.
FS. 7.8/Cb 1.1, H. 21.00 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

110. Head of a ram with licking tongue and large nostrils. Left horn preserved.
L. 6.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1699.
FS. 2 V 9.5/Cb 6.0, H. 21.60 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19

111. Fragment of a ram.
H. 8.5 cm. L. 10.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 791.
FS. 2 IV 12.5/Ca 10.5, H. 23.45–22.90 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/16

112. Fragment of a bird with extended wings.
H. 5.6 cm. L. 9.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3243.
FS. 2 IV 10.0/Ca 11.8, H. 21.40 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

113. Beak of a bird (Garuḍa?). Large lozenge-shaped eye on bulgy part of head.
H. 3.1 cm. L. 5.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1361.
FS. 2 V 7.5–9.5/Ca 1.0–3.5, H. 21.65–21.35 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

114. Head and neck of an animal (bird?). Eyes indicated by perforation.
H. 5.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2804.
FS. 2 IV 0.5–4.5/Cb 8.0–9.5, H. 21.65–21.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

115. Headless bird with incised feathers all over the body.
H. 5.8 cm. L. 9.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3183.
FS. 2 III 8.0/Cc 0.9, H. 21.20 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

116. Head of a bird. Eyes shaped as incised rings with dotted eyeballs. Beak broken off.
H. 4.6 cm. Colour: red with mica. No. So III A 1480.
FS. 2 IV 10.5–15.0/Cc 9.5–10.1, H. 22.66–22.06 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.17

117. Head and neck of a bird. Eyes simply incised as uneven circles. Mouth slightly open.
H. 6.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1090.
FS. 2 V 19.05/Ca 19.3, H. 23.20 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

118. Spirally contracted object (snake?). Head broken off.
Ø 3.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 3157.
FS. 2 IV 12.6/Cc 9.35, H. 20.95 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21

119. Hood of an originally seven-headed cobra. Mutilated remains of four heads visible. On the reverse vertically incised lines indicating seven snake bodies.
H. 13.8 cm. B.16.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1276.
FS. 2 IV 7.2–9.5/Ca 11.0–16.0, H. 22.70–22.50 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19
Note: One more specimen of hood-fragment registered as So III A 1286.

120. Head of an animal (antilope?). Horns broken off. Eyes pierced, showing upturned edges.
H. 2.7 cm. Colour: grey-brown. No. So III A 3118.
FS.2 IV 0.5–6.0/Ca 19.5-Cb 0.5, H. 21.90–21.70 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

121. Head of an animal (camel?). Eyes marked as perforation. Ears applied as patches. Long neck slightly bent.
H. 5.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1115.
FS. 2 IV 4.5–7.0/Be 16.0–19.5, H. 22.60–22.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. Ca L.20

122. Small indefinite animal with long-stretched, but worn head and pointed mouth. Ears upright. On back two holes.
H. 2.5 cm. L. 4.1 cm. Blackened by fire. No. So III A 959.
FS. 2 V 12.95/Cb 3.26, H. 22.57 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

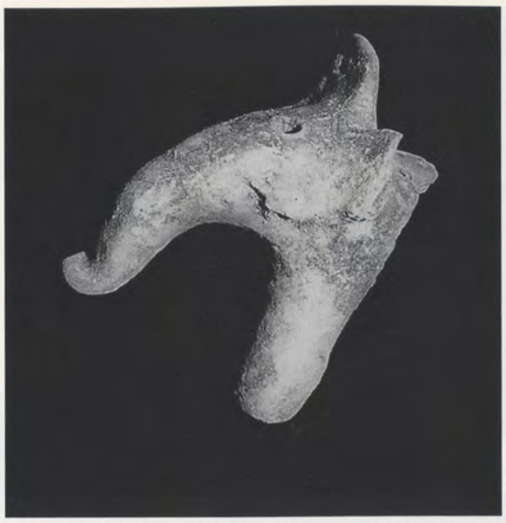
123. Fragment of an indefinite animal (horse?).
H. 3.3 cm. L. 5.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1629.
FS.2 III 11.0/Cb 16.5, H. 22.80–22.50 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

124. Head and neck of an indefinite animal. Eyes and ears impressed.
H. 5.9 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 945.
FS. 2 V 2.5–7.5/Cc 8.5–10.5, H. 22.60–22.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16

125. Head of a fawn? Eyes in lozenges. Perforation in front part of head for fastening a string. Nostrils and mouth marked.
H. 6.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1031.
FS. 2 IV 6.0–8.0/Cb 2.5–9.5, H. 23.53–23.28 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

126. Mutilated animal (rat?). Eyes pierced.
H. 3.2 cm. L. 5.5 cm. Blackened by fire. No. So III A 965.
FS. 2 IV 7.5–9.5/Cb 10.5–16.5, H. 23.67–23.27 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

127. Cheeky little dog? Head and ears upturned, tail upright. Eyes inserted as perforation.
H. 5.5 cm. L. 5.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 895.
FS. 2 V 2.5–7.5/Cc 8.0–9.5, H. 23.05–22.75 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16



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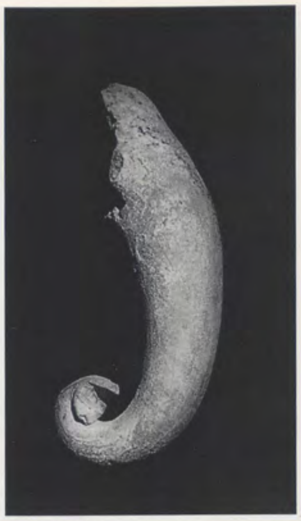

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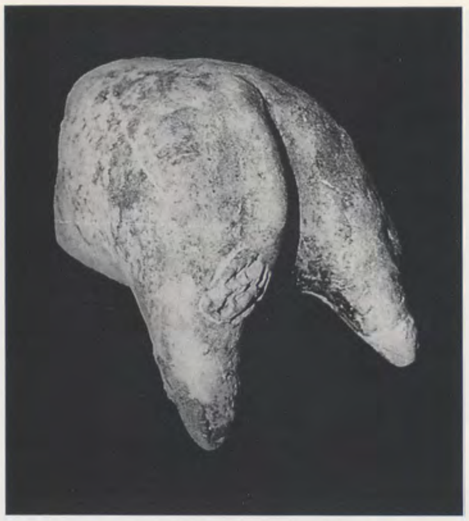

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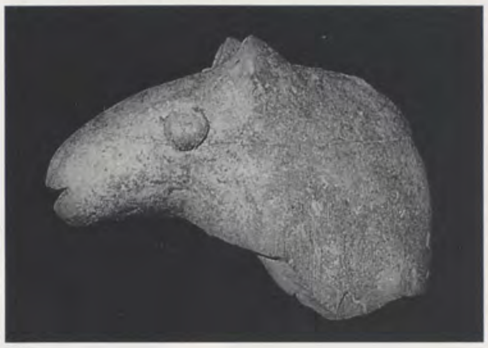

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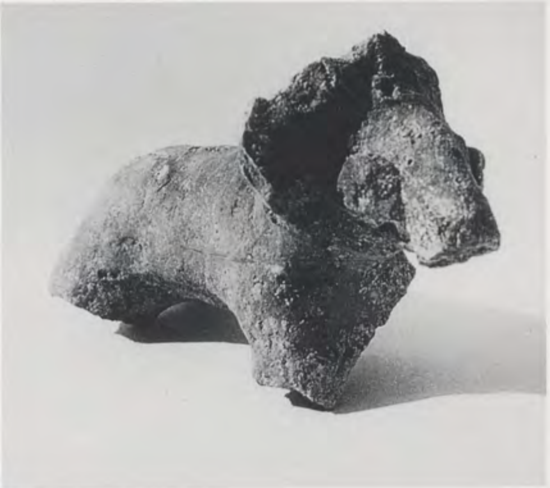

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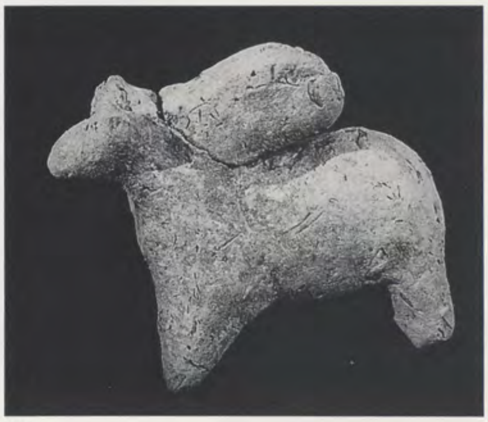

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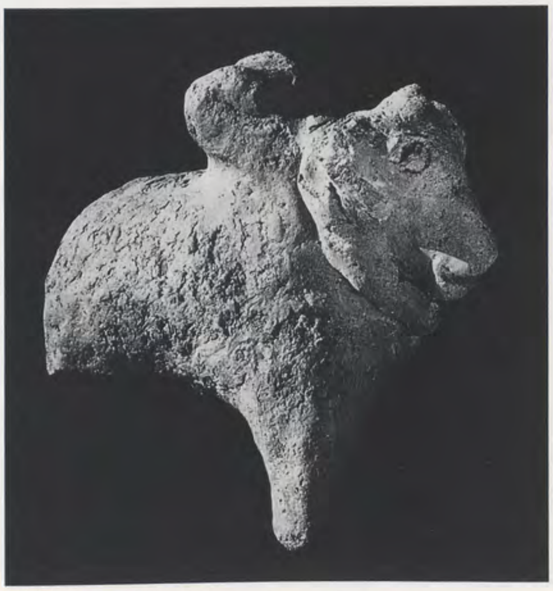

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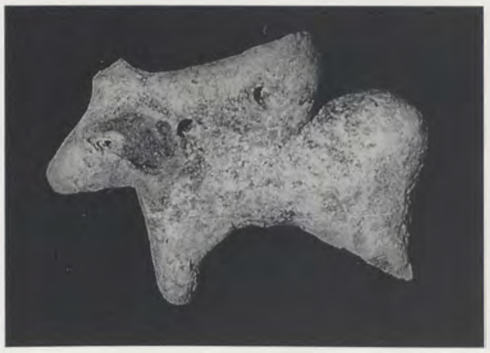

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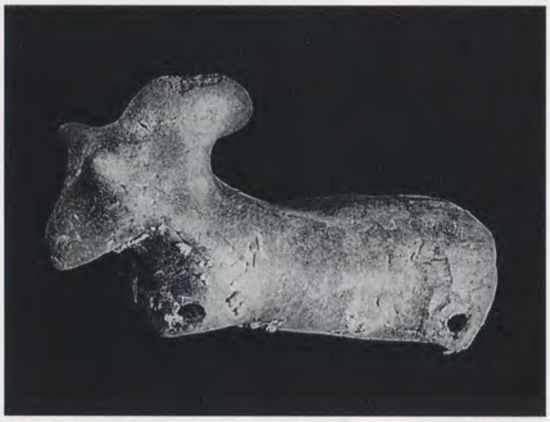
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period V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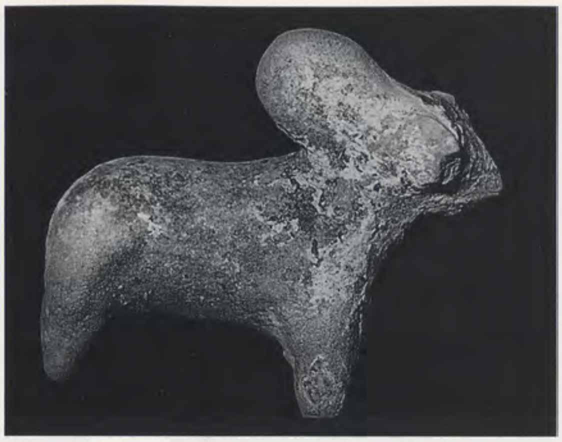
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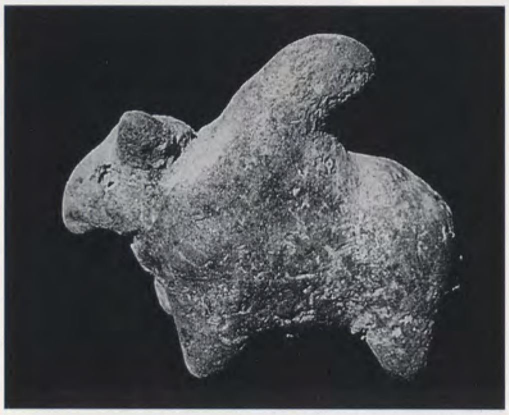
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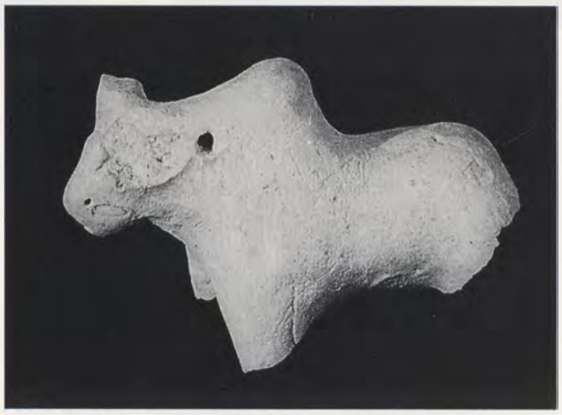
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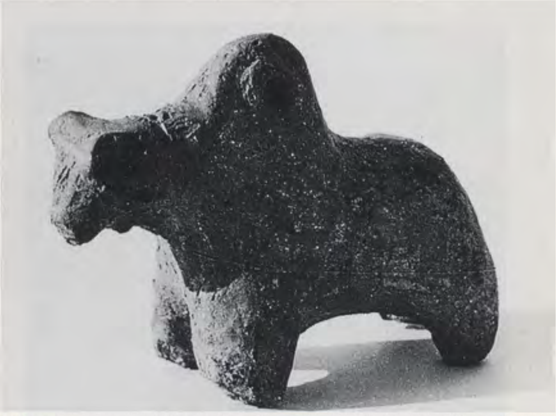
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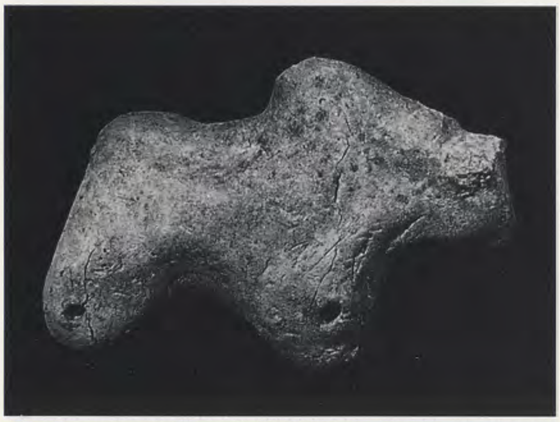
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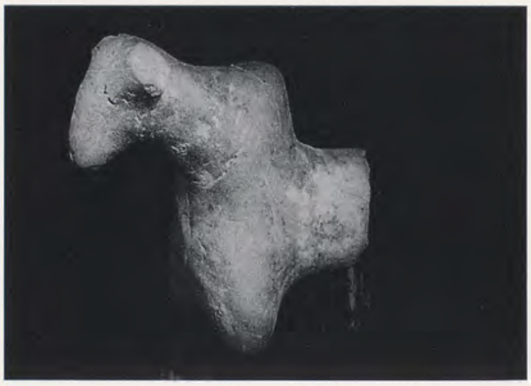
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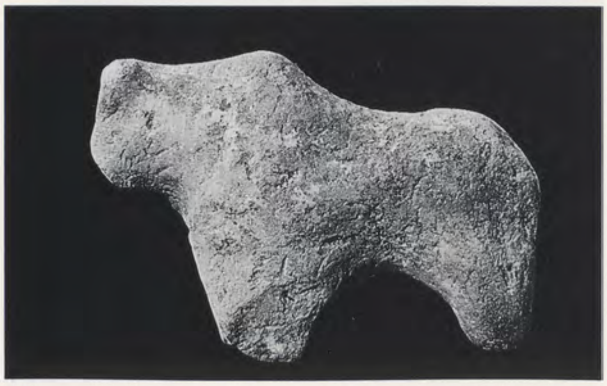
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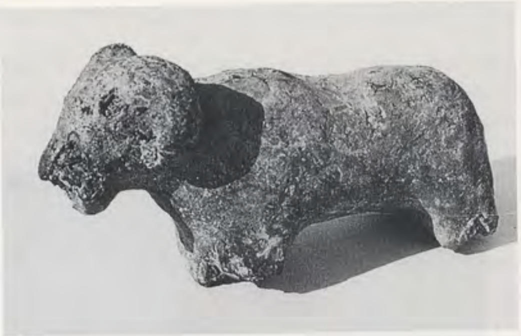
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period V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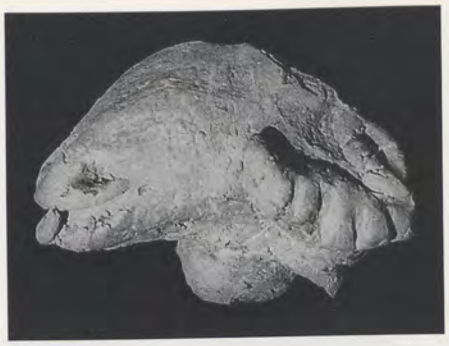
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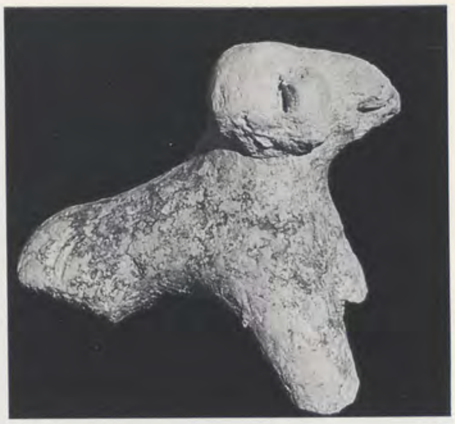
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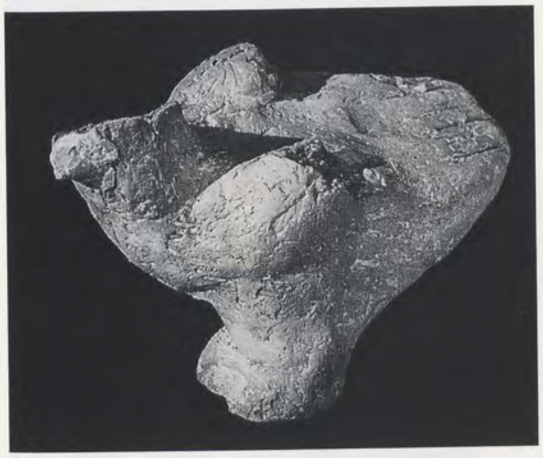
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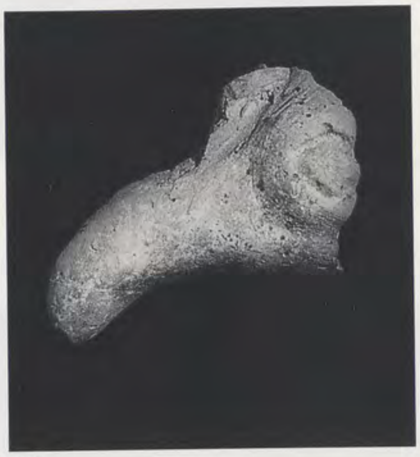
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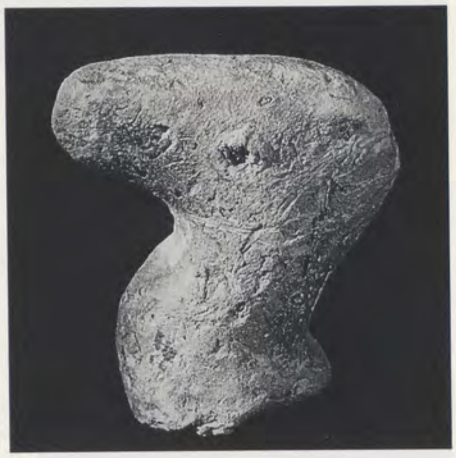
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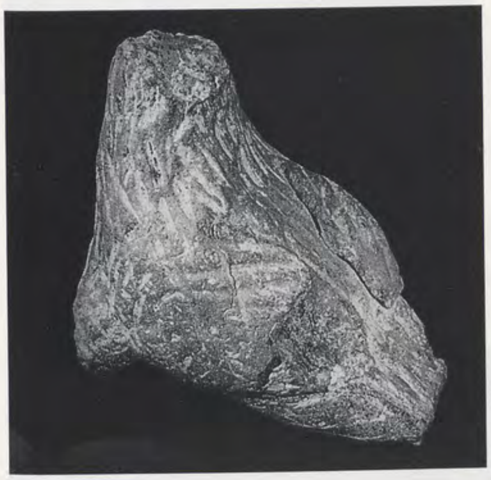
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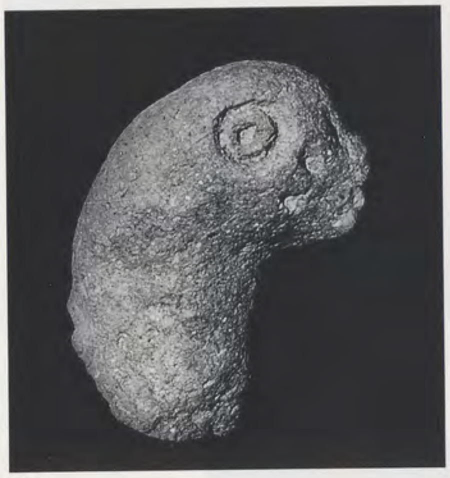
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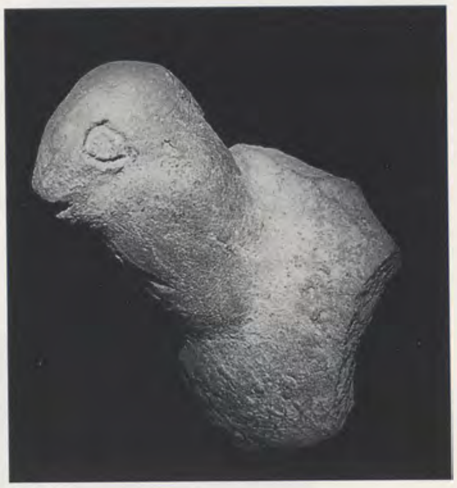
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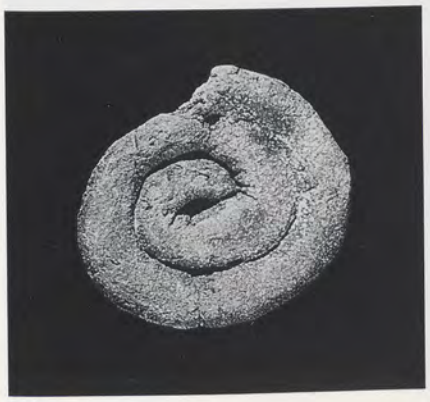
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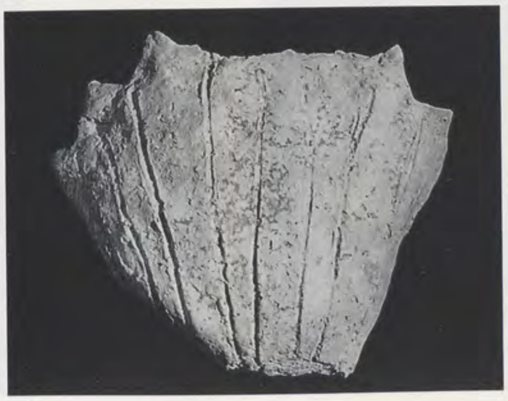
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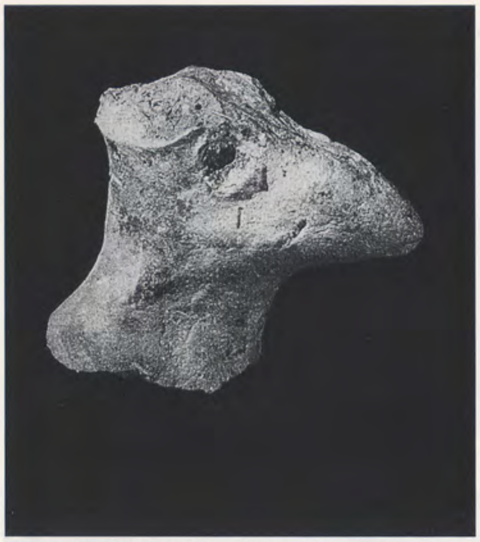
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period V



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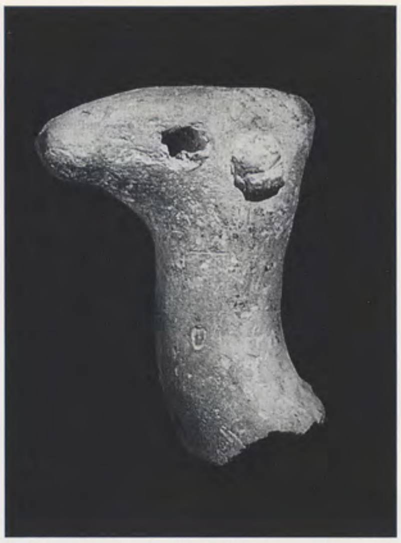

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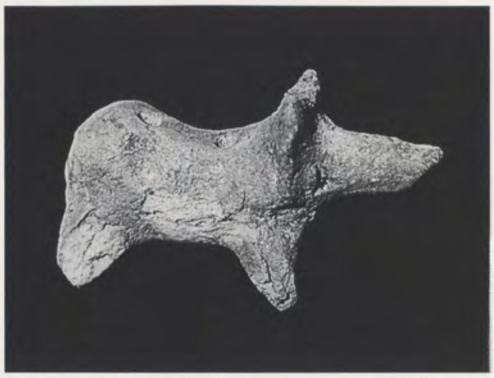

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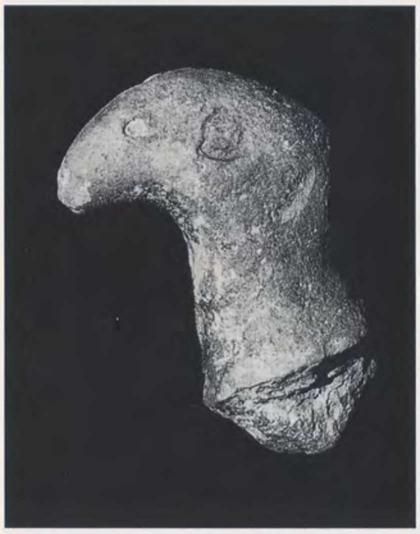

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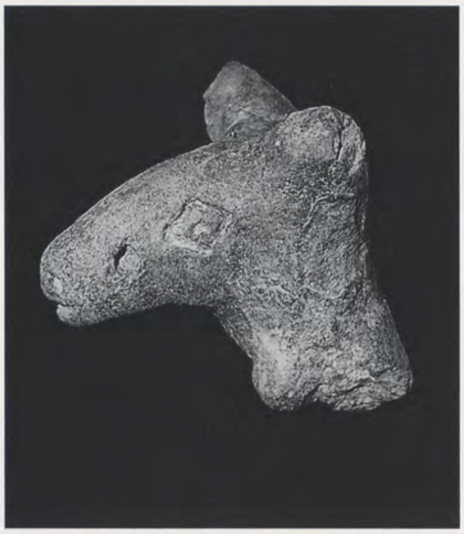

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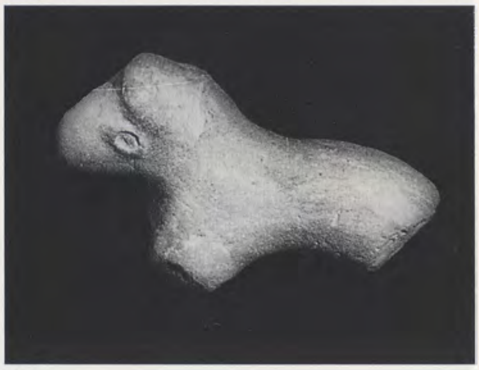

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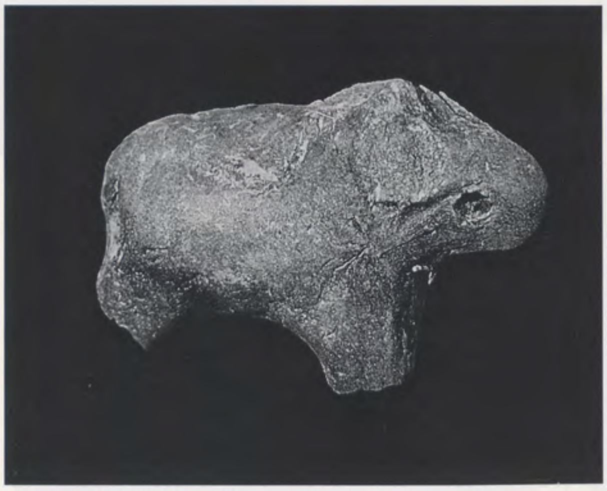

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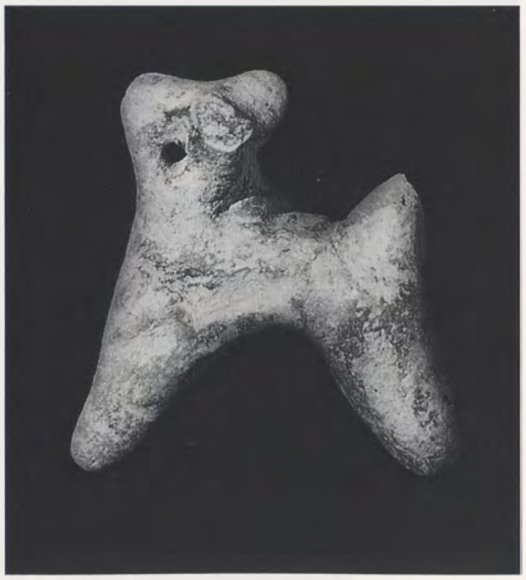

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Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period V

Period VI. Terracotta Animals from Levels 15 to 12

128. Fragment of an elephant with rider (mahout). Trunk and head of rider broken off. Rider's hands stretched out towards the animal's ears. Front legs of the elephant not separately shaped but shown as contracted. Hind legs missing.
H. 6.8 cm. L. 8.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 412.
FS. 2 V 8.6/Ca 5.7, H. 24.25 m. Gupta. L.15

129. Fragment of an elephant composition moulded at both sides. Elephant obviously in a fighting position with open mouth and raised (but broken off) trunk. Adversary in front of him indistinct.
H. 4.0 cm. L. 6.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 561.
FS. 2 III 14.1/Cb 13.25, H. 24.25 m. Ca L.15

130. Forepart of a horse. Small head directed downwards. Eyes applied in shape of a broadly rimmed ring. Mane incised as strokes on right side of the neck.
H. 8.7 cm. L. 5.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 604.
FS. 2 IV 13.0–15.0/Ca 15.5–19.5, H. 24.30–24.00 m.
Gupta. L.15

131. Head of same type of horse as no. 130. Mouth slightly opened.
H. 4.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 594.
FS. 2 IV 14.5–16.5/Ca 15.0–19.5, H. 24.70–24.00 m.
Gupta. L.15/14.
Note: Four more specimens of this type of head registered as nos. So III A 414; 818; 1954; 3611.

132. Head of a horse with proudly arched neck and head. A stamped rosette of holes adorns neck and chest. Mane indicated by a crest. Traces of black painted lines on head and body.
H. 5.9 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 863.
FS.2 V 0.5–1.0/Ca 19.5-Cb 0.5, H. 24.50–24.20 m.
Gupta. L.15/14

133. Horse of the head-type of nos. 130–131. The back might have carried a saddle now chipped off.
H. 5.7 cm. L. 8.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 625.
FS. 2 IV 13.5–15.5/Ca 16.0–19.5, H. 24.20–23.70 m.
Gupta. L.15/14.
Note: Three more specimens of this type registered as finds nos. So III A 960; 1322; 2060.

134. Mutilated horse with saddle. Head broken off. Mane incised as strokes on right side of neck. Body of the animal painted with broad black stripes.
H. 8.0 cm. L. 11.0 cm. Red, black paint. No. So III A 384.
FS. 2 V 17.0–19.0/Ca 10.5–19.5, H. 24.40–24.00 m.
Gupta. L.15.
Note: Eight more specimens registered as finds nos. So III A 92; 173; 897; 961; 962; 1226; 1860; 2002.

135. Headless horse with painted, incised and punched decor. Mane shown on right side of neck only as parallel strokes filled with dots inbetween every second pair of lines. Rich patterns of punched holes all over the body.
H. 7.4 cm. L. 8.0 cm. Red, black paint. No. So III A 433.
FS. 2 V 0.5–2.0/Cb 0.5–4.5, H. 25.00–24.70 m.
Late Gupta. L.13

136. Horse with perforation through neck for fastening a string.
H. 7.5 cm. L. 10.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 892.
FS. 2 III 13.5–19.5/Ca 19.5-Cb 0.5, H. 25.83–25.00 m.
Early Medieval. L.12

137. Horse with crested mane. Eyes applied as disc-like patches with incised stroke.
H. 6.4 cm. L. 7.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 797.
FS. 2 III 19.5/Cb 6.0, H. 25.20–24.80 m.
Early Medieval. L.12

138. Humped bull with straight horns. Legs set broadly apart. Eyes applied as small rings with central prick. Nostrils clearly marked, mouth slightly open. Punched pattern of holes between horns. Perforation through mouth for fastening a string. Hump type 2. Traces of painted black stripes.
H. 9.5 cm. Red slip with black stripes. No. So III A 272.
FS. 2 IV 14.8–17.5/Be 17.0–20.0, H. 25.50–25.10 m.
Gupta. L.15
Note: Twelve more specimens of this type registered as finds nos. So III A 487; 527; 725; 774; 910; 926; 927; 957; 1019; 1029; 1732; 1800.

139. Head of humped bull of the type of no. 138 but with richer decoration by punching holes along the horns and application of a ring between horns.
H. 3.1 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1935.
FS. Stray find. Out of context.

140. Humped bull with mutilated head. Hump type 6.
H. 3.9 cm. L. 4.3 cm . Colour: grey. No. So III A 578.
FS. 2 IV 16.5–19.5/Ca 0.5–2.5, H. 24.30–24.00 m.
Gupta. L.15.
Note: One more specimen registered as find no. So III A 455.

141. Extremely small humped bull. Hump type 1.
H. 2.0 cm. L. 2.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 635.
FS. 2 IV 8.3–9.5/Ca 4.0–9.5, H. 24.20–23.85 m.
Gupta. L.15

142. Fragment of a ram. Perforation through head for fastening a string. Incised strokes on neck and right thigh indicating hair.
H. 7.0 cm. L. 6.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1010.
FS.2 IV 11.0/Cb 19.5, H. 23.67–23.37 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa/ Late Gupta. L.16–13

143. Fragment of an indefinite object with the depiction of a buffalo with striped horns.
H. 6.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 560.
FS. 2 IV 13.6/Ca 9.4, H. 24.00 m. Gupta. L.15

144. Head and neck of a swan (?). Beak broken off. Eyes applied as round discs.
H. 8.0 cm. Colour: light brown. No. So III A 991.
FS. 2 IV 9.5–10.5/Ca 19.5-Cb 0.5, H. 25.21–24.91 m.
Early Medieval. L.12

145. Head and neck of an indefinite animal (fawn?). Ears applied in shape of flat discs, eyes incised as circles, mouth perforated for fastening a string.
H. 5.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 582.
FS. 2 III 10.0/Cb 19.0, H. 24.30–24.00 m. Ca Gupta. L.15

146. Small dog. Perforated eyes, upright ears and tail.
H. 5.5 cm. L. 4.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1009.
FS. 2 IV 10.5/Cb 9.5, H. 24.81–24.51 m.
Late Gupta/ Early Medieval. L.13.
Note: Four more specimens of same type registered as finds nos. So III A 432; 583; 1934; 1937.

147. Fragment of a terracotta relief with the depiction of a Makara with human leg on his back. Already described under HUMAN FIG., no. 186

H. 19.0 cm. B.19.0 cm. Brick-red. No. So I 127.
FS. 2 V 10.2/Ca 6.15, H. 24.50 m. Gupta. L.14

148. Fragment of a cobra-hood. Tip of mouth pierced. Eyes applied as flat discs. Vertically incised lines on the front side of the extended hood.
H. 2.9 cm. B.4.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 490.
FS. 2 V 5.0–7.0/Ca 16.5–19.5, H. 24.20–23.90 m.
Gupta. L.15

149. Mutilated animal (fox?). Long stretched body and tail. Mouth broken short.
H. 4.2 cm. L. 9.7 cm. Brick-red. No. So III A 536.
FS. 2 III 19.8/Be 19.95, H. 24.55 m. Ca L.14

150. Lion. Flat face showing two semicircles with one applied eye each. Mouth slightly open. Body and three legs broken off.
H. 7.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 243.
FS. 2 IV 5.5–9.5/Be 14.5–17.5, H. 25.80–25.10 m.
Late Gupta. Ca L.14

151. Lion similar to no. 150 but with more elaborate face.
H. 5.6 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 732.
FS. Surface find. Out of context.

152. Small bull crouchant on flat base.
H. 4.1 cm. L. 4.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 621.
FS. 2 IV 0.5–4.0/Cb 0.5–9.5, H. 24.70 m.
Late Gupta/ Early Medieval. L.13.
Note: One more specimen of this type registered as So III A 522.

153. Hollow bull being used as a rattle. Made by two moulds. Sharp pointed horns, slightly opened mouth.
H. 8.2 cm. L. 7.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 585.
FS. 2 IV 2.85/Cb 2.77, H. 24.45 m. Late Gupta. L.13
Note: One more specimen registered under no. So III A 503.

Period VII. Terracotta Animals from Levels 11 to 8

154. Mutilated moulded bull crouchant on a flat base.
H. 3.3 cm. L. 3.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 262.
FS. 2 IV 4.98/Ca 15.2, H. 25.20 m. Medieval. L.11
Note: Three more specimens registered as finds nos. So III A 2012; 2013; 2025.

155. Horse with saddle. Head-type as no. 133 but eyes indicated by slits. Mane strokes on right side. Perforation through crest for fastening a string.
H. 6.8 cm. L. 8.9 cm. Red with mica. No. So I 96.
FS. 2 IV 17.3/Cb 0.5, H. 25.65 m. Medieval. L.10
Note: Two more specimens of heads of same type registered as finds nos. So III A 211; 430.

156. Humped bull. Perforation through neck. Hump type 9.
H. 5.0 cm. L. 6.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 8.
FS. Trench 1. D 10. H. 26.00 m. Medieval. Ca L.10

157. Neck and head of an animal (camel?). Ears broken off. Mouth slightly open. Black stripes.
H. 4.2 cm. Colour: red, black paint. No. So III A 224.
FS. 2 V 4.6–7.0/Ca 0.5–9.5, H. 25.60–25.20 m.
Late Medieval. L.9

158. Mutilated plaque of four-armed Gaṇeśa seated on a flat base. Two hands on stomach, two arms raised.
H. 7.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1002.
FS. Filling. Out of context.

Period VIII. Terracotta Animals from Levels 7 to 1

159. Fragment of a dog. Ears uplifted, eyes applied in shape of discs with central prick. Perforation through mouth for fastening a string. Necklace of twisted ribbon. Legs broken off.
H. 4.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 156.
FS. 2 V 10.5–15.0/Ca 12.0–19.5, H. 26.00–25.50 m.
Jat. L.7/6
Note: Two more specimens registered as finds nos. So III A 108; 545.

160. Horse with rider. Hollow and partly wheel-made.
H. 14.1 cm. L. 12.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 102.
FS. 2 IV 19.9/Cc 14.06, H. 25.35 m (pit from 6). Jat. L.6

161. Neck and head of a moulded hollow horse.
H. 4.8 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 88.
FS. 2 IV 10.5–14.0/Cb 0.5–9.0, H. 27.75 m.
Jat. L.4–2
Note: Five more specimens of same type registered as finds nos. So III A 55; 70; 110; 116; 166.

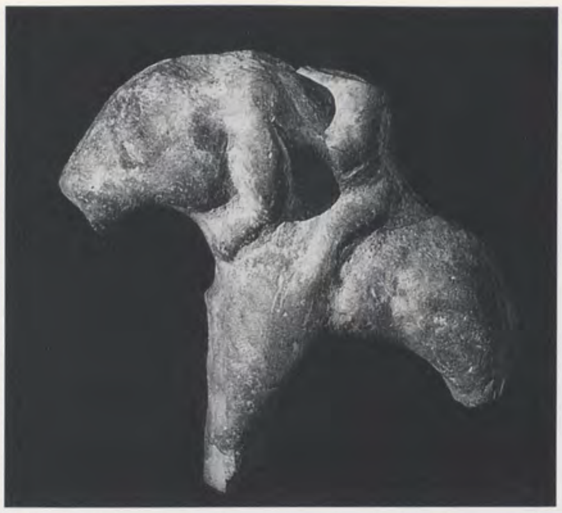
162. Head of a bull. Moulded and hollow. Right horn broken off.
L. 5.1 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 77.
FS. 2 IV 14.0–19.5/Ca 10.5–19.5, H. 27.50 m.
Jat. L.3

163. Neck and head of a goose. Moulded and hollow.
H. 6.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 3515.
FS. 2 IV 12.0–15.5/Be 4.5–7.4, H. 26.55–26.25 m.
Jat. L.6

164. Fragment of a dog with pointy ears. Eyes inserted as a perforation.
H. 3.9 cm. L. 6.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 78.
FS.2 IV 17.0–19.5/Cb 0.5–10.0, H. 28.00 m. Jat. L.2

165. Head of an animal with large applied ears and incised strokes. Mouth slightly open.
H. 7.3 cm. Colour: grey-brown. No. So III A 2570.
FS. Surface find. Out of context.

166. Fragment of an indefinite animal (horse?). Long mouth, uplifted ears. Two punched circles as decoration (?) on forehead. Eyes pricked. Where legs begin vertical strokes are incised nearly parallel.
H. 7.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 198.
FS. Surface find. Out of context.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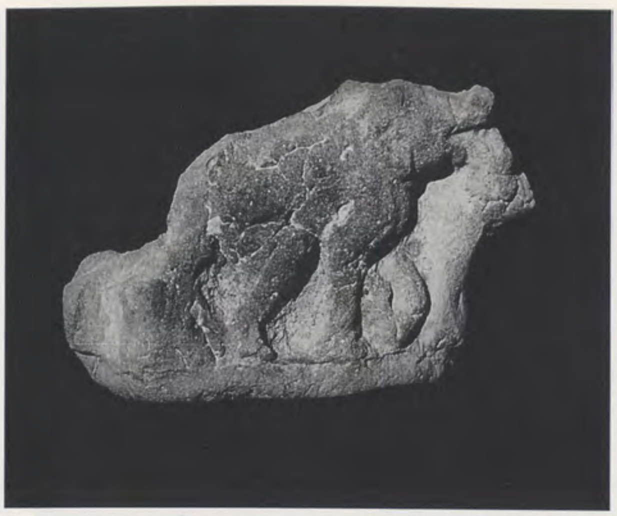
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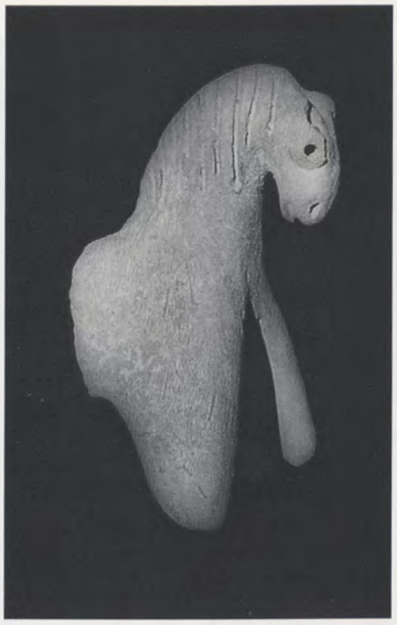
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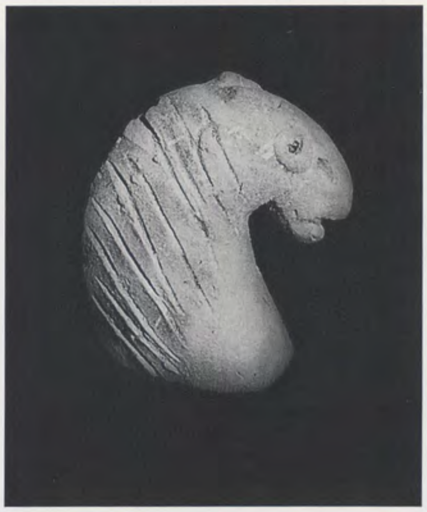
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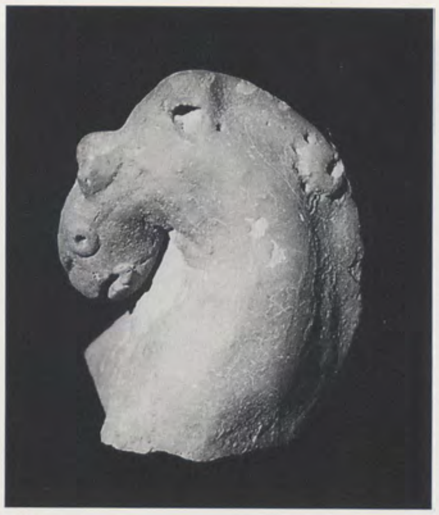
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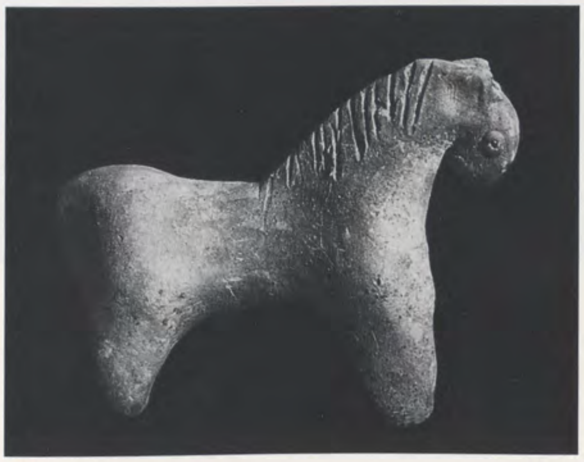
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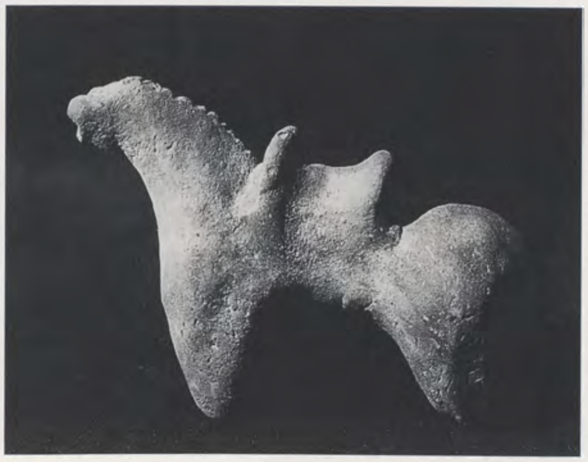
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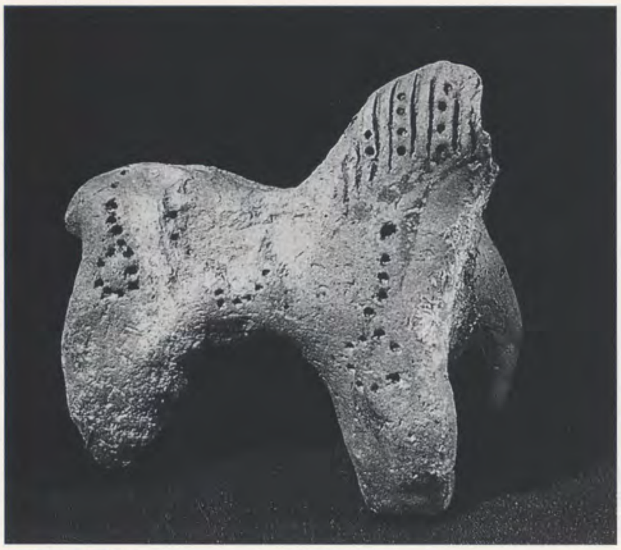
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period VI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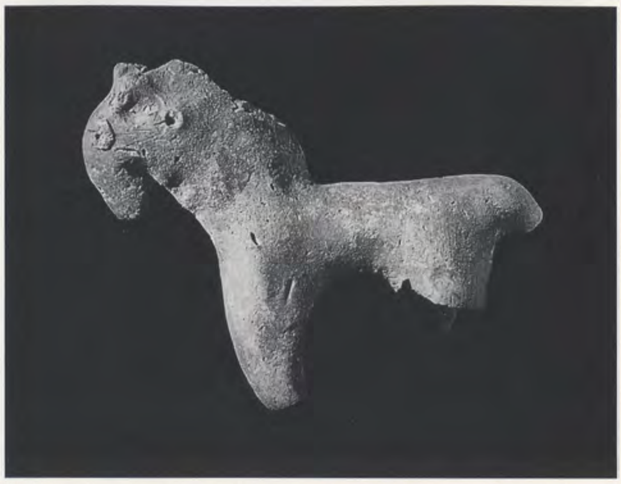
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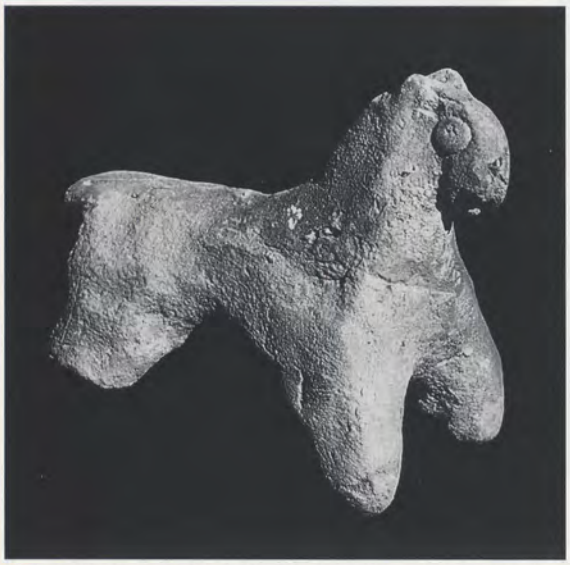
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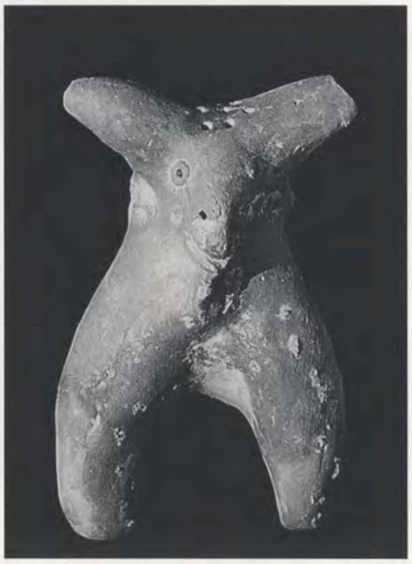
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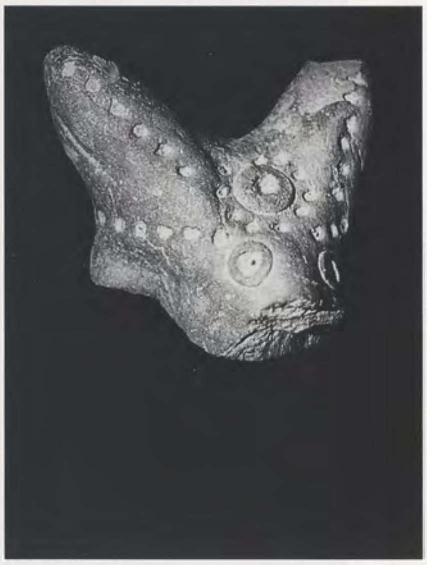
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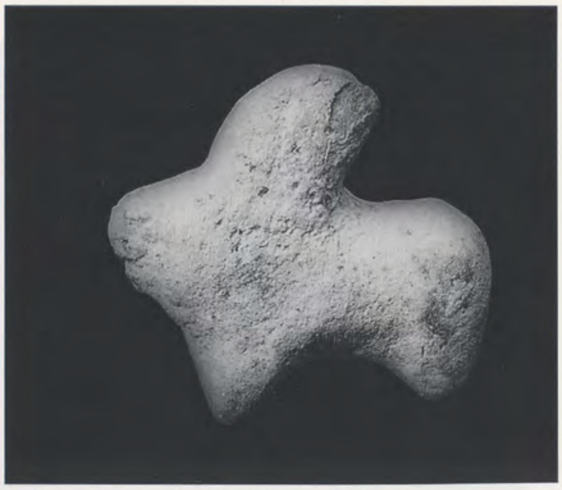
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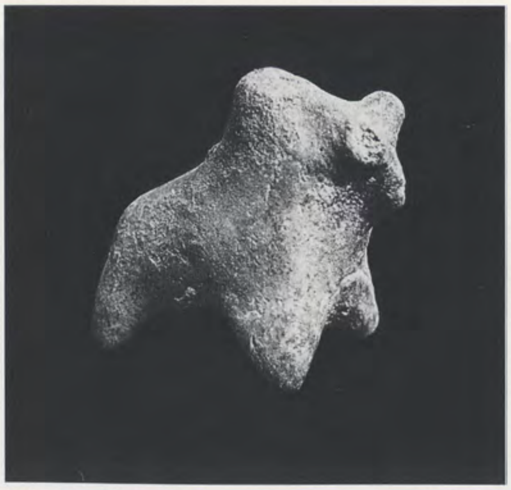
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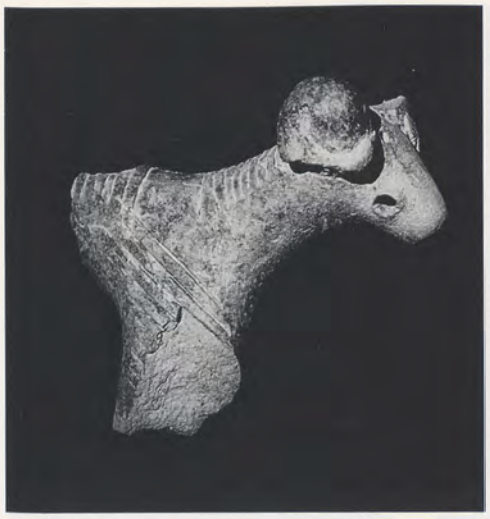
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period VI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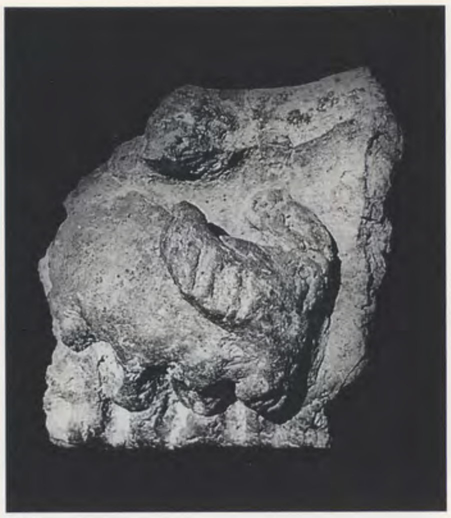
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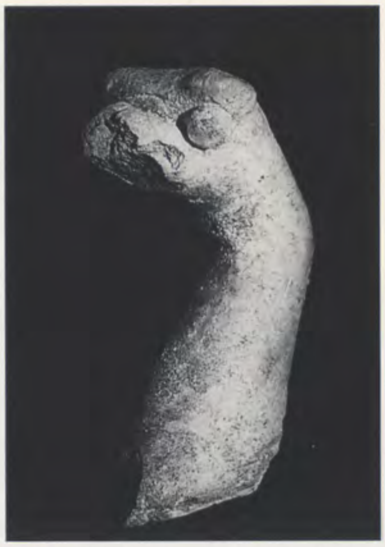
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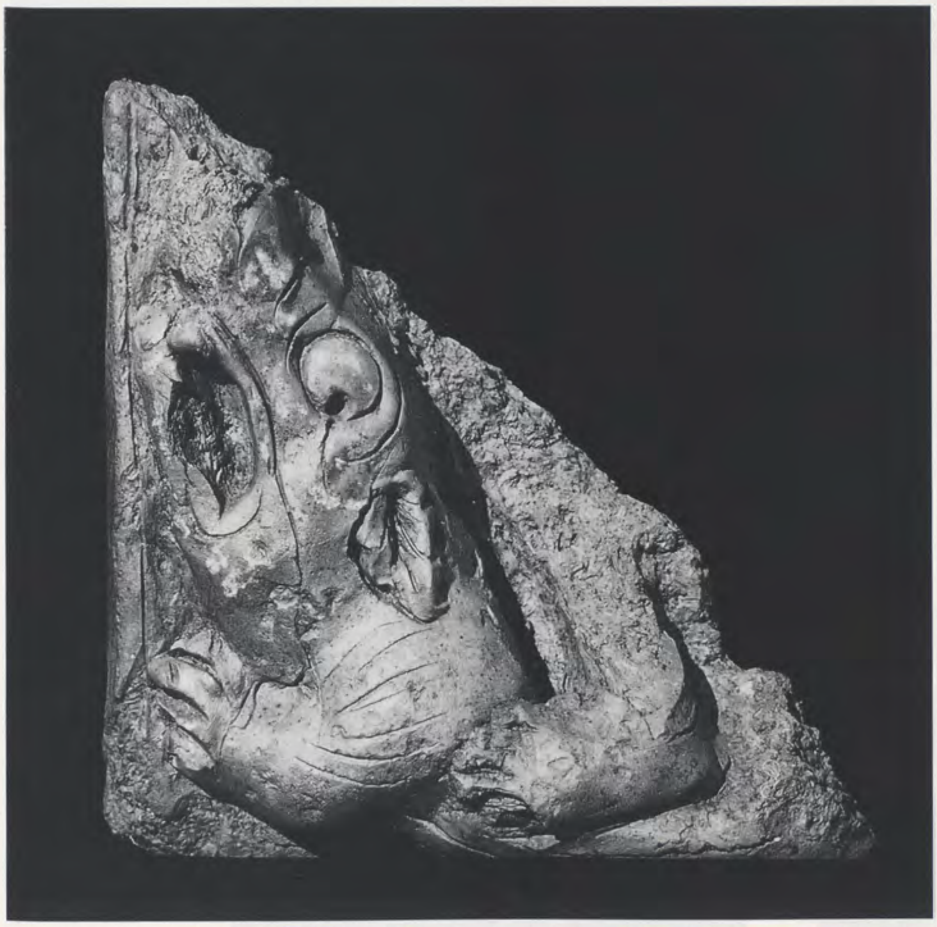
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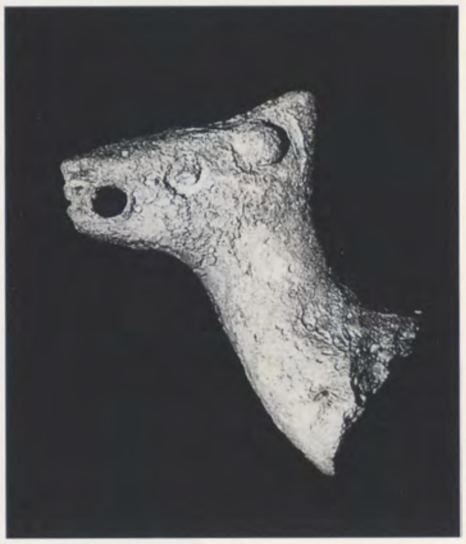
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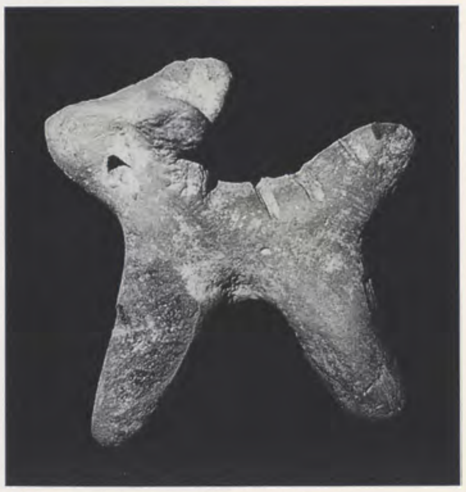
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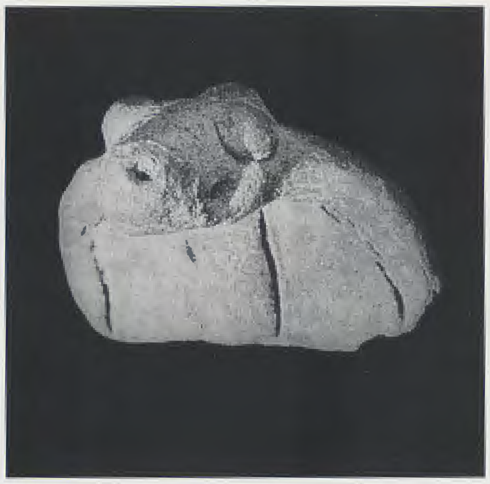
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period VI



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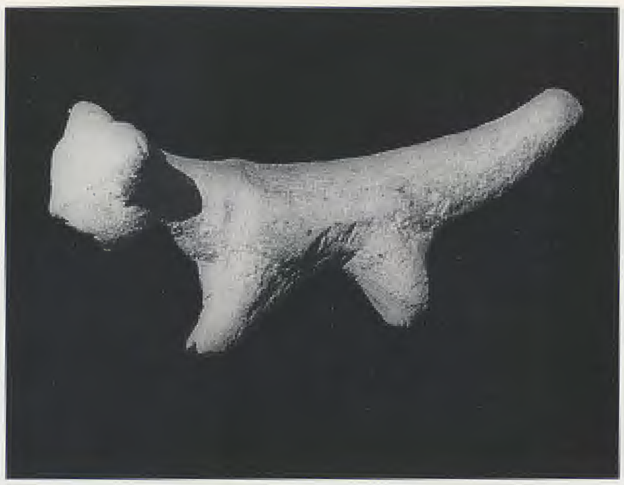

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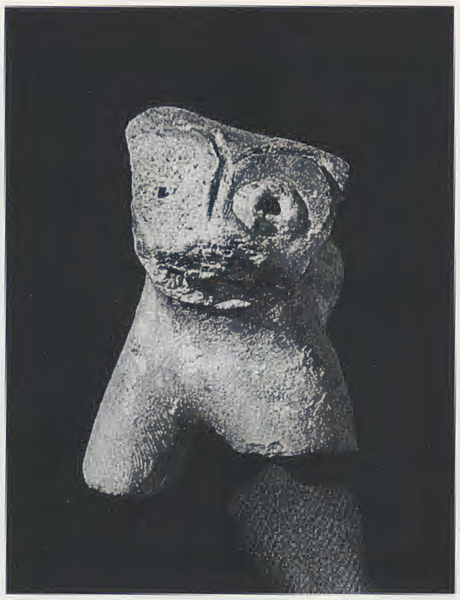

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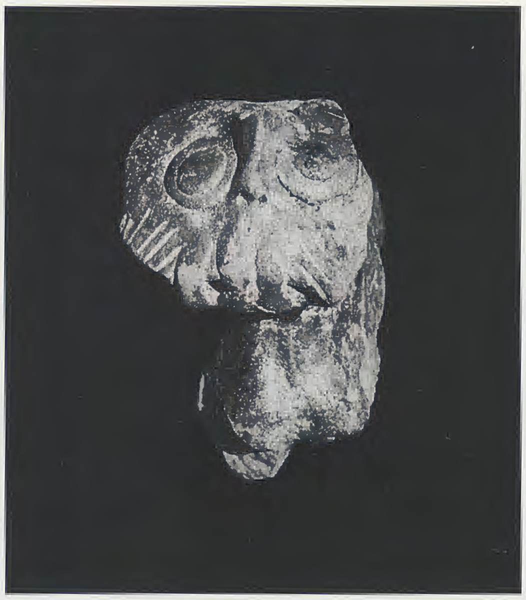

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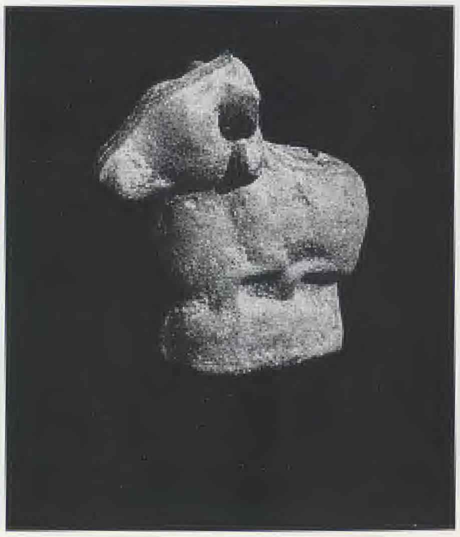

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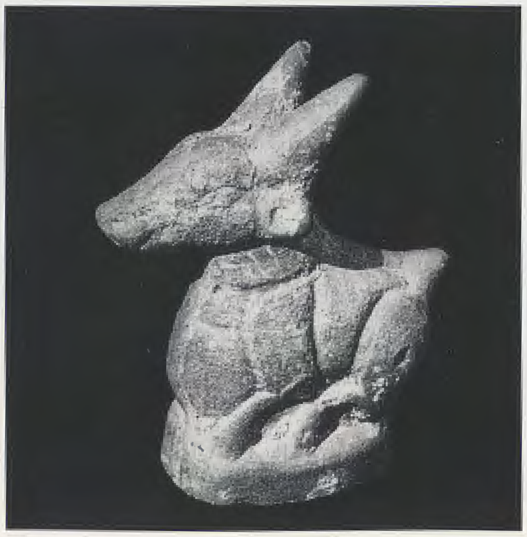

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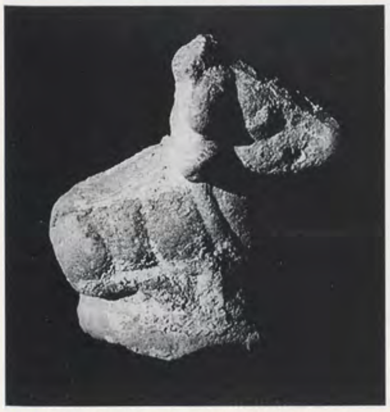
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period VI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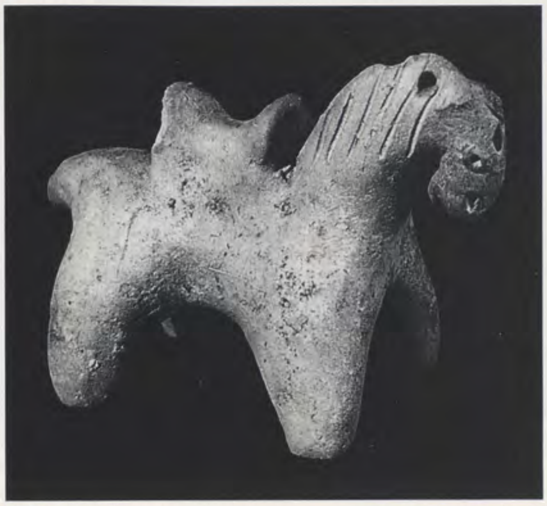
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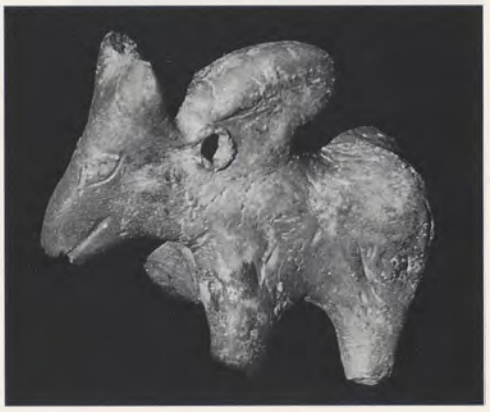
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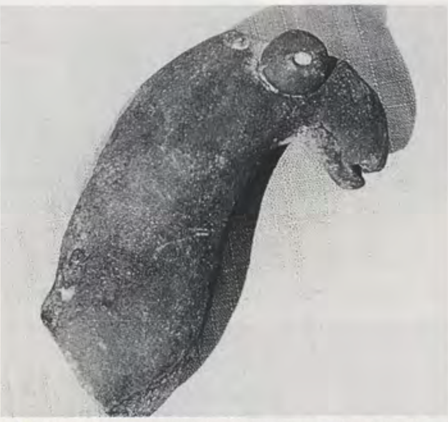
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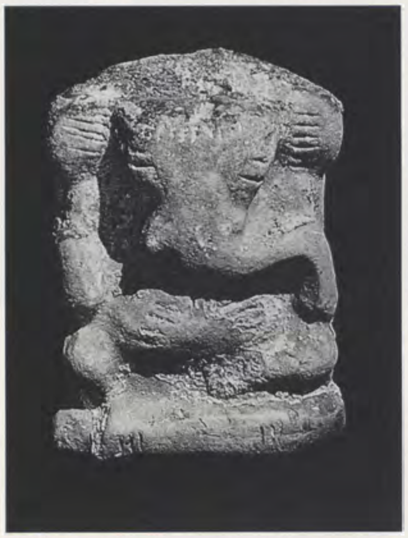
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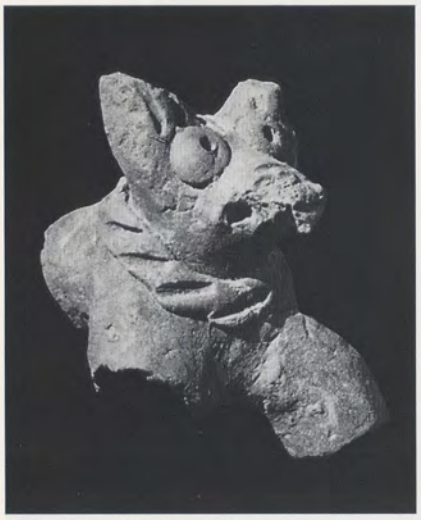
Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period VII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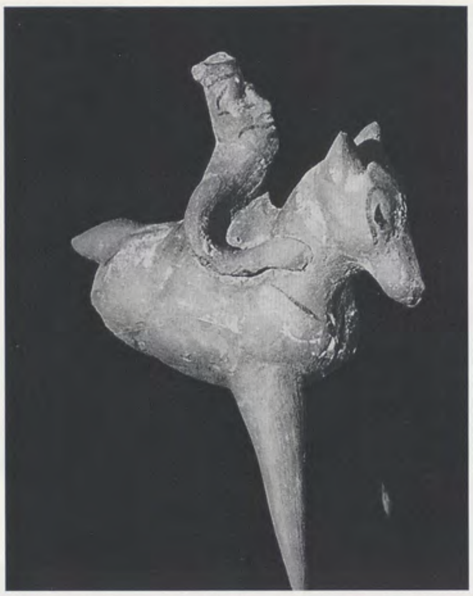
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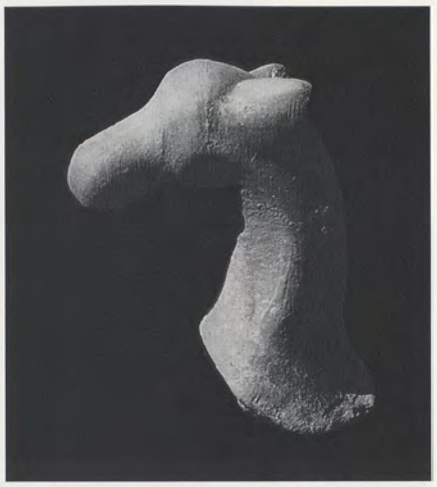
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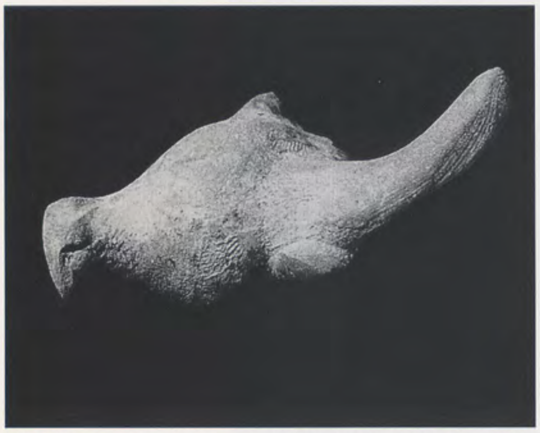
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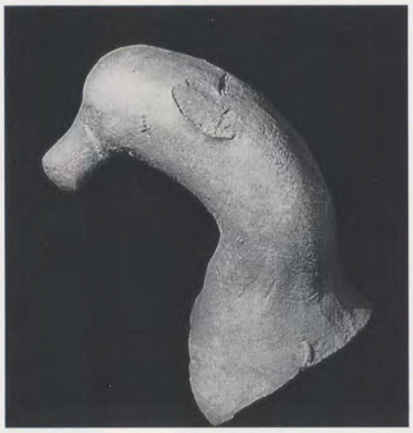
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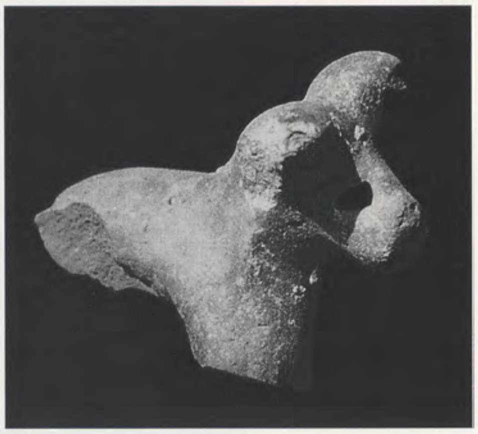
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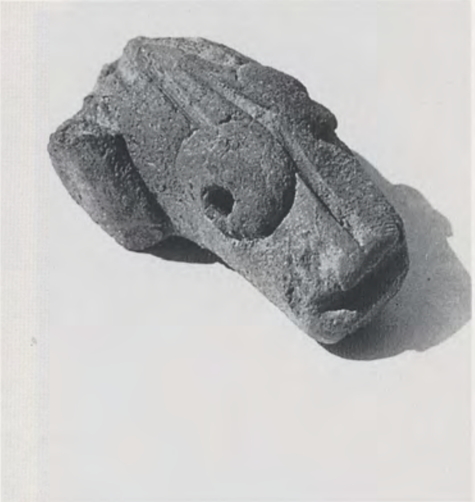
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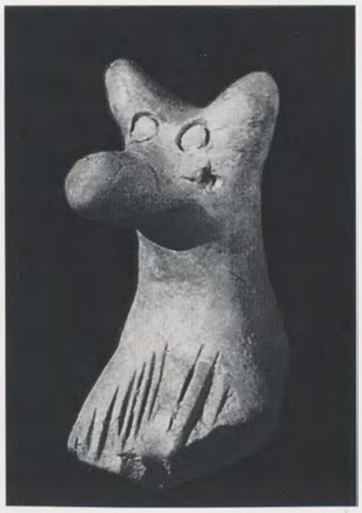
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Terracotta Animal Figurines. Period VIII

3. Miscellaneous Terracotta Objects

Votive Tanks

The excavations at Sonkh yielded altogether 266 fragments of votive tanks. Most of these objects consist of small pieces like parts of the tank wall with lamp or bird on the rim, with a ladder applied to the wall or of fragments of the tank bottom with the depiction of aquatic animals like snake, frog and fish or with remains even of seated human figures. Fortunately, a sufficient number of more complete vessels permits to differentiate between several varieties of votive tanks and to allot most of the fragments to their respective type. A selected group of better preserved tanks and details of such may represent and characterize these types.

The use of votive tanks for performing *pūjā* in the homes of people is not restricted to a short period as often meant. The finds at Sonkh cover the span of time from period II to period VII, i.e. more than a millennium. While a few fragments suggest the starting of votive tank *pūjā* as early as the Mauryas, the end is represented by two tanks of the late type found in level 11, belonging to the medieval period. But the bulk of the finds hails from period III, the time of the Mitras of Mathura in the first century BC which proved to be the most inventive phase for votive tanks.

The main types of votive tanks can be categorized as follows:

A. Round, wheel-made bowl with extended rim and an arbitrary number of lamp-cups applied to it. Inside of bowl just plain (e.g. nos. 1–3).

B. Rectangular or square water-tank with birds and lamps upon the rim and with an integrated building (temple) placed on a platform which is supported by pillars and can be reached by a staircase. A thick stem of lotus stands upright with opened blossom, to swim on the water when the tank was filled. On the ground, figures of snake, frog or fish are applied (e.g. no. 6). Subvariety: Round basin with temple integrated on the ground (no. 12)

C. Single type of a tank with houses built around a court (no. 13).

D. Round vessel with or without lamps upon rim, with a ladder applied to the inner wall and with snake, fish or frog depicted on the ground (e.g. no. 14).

E. Rectangular tank with Mother Goddesses seated along the inner wall carrying a child in their arm and a bowl in their lap (e.g. no. 16). Kṣatrapa/Kuṣāṇa version.

F. Round, wheel-made bowl with four birds on the rim and snake and frog on the ground. No ladder (e.g. no. 22). Kuṣāṇa only.

G. Rectangular tank with a spout, three ladders on the inner wall and a snake applied to the ground (nos. 26). Medieval version.

The majority of fragments from votive tanks found at Sonkh belong, as already mentioned, to a period prior to the Kṣatrapa levels 24/23. All but one of the lamp-and-bird type were intended to be filled with water as is proved by the placing of snake, frog and fish so often on the bottom of the vessel and by a stem of lotus, the open petals of which are meant for lying on the water when the tank is filled. The only exception is type C, a tank with houses arranged in the square but without a human figure in it. Votive tanks equipped with human figures seated along the inner walls in the mostly rectangular vessels firstly appear with the Kṣatrapas. This type has been copied in the Kuṣāṇa period at Sonkh but vanished soon. The water-tank remains the main type of votive tank till the end of finds in the medieval period.

Period II. Votive tanks from Levels 36 to 29

There are seven small fragments of votive tanks, such as lamp-cups, wall-piece with ladder and a bottom piece with applied frog. All of them seem to come from round vessels. One piece with ladder has been found in a well used in level 34 only. This material points to an early use of votive tanks but does, in our opinion, not yet provide sufficient evidence for a final conclusion. The objects in question are registered as finds nos. So III A 1996; 1978; 3079; 3025; 2724; 2210; 3601.

Period III. Votive tanks from Levels 28 to 24

1. Round, wheel-made vessel with slantingly extended rim on which four lamp-cups are applied. The original number of lamps might have been eight.
Ø 15.8 cm. Colour: brick-red. No. So II 2234.
FS.3 I 6.0/Ca 16.7, H. 17.80 m. Early Mitra. L.28

2. Mutilated round votive tank. Wheel-made. Sharp-edged broadly extended rim on which twelve lamp-cups are preserved.
Ø 28.0 cm. H. 9.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3710.
FS. 2 V 10.5–11.7/Cc 4.4–5.0, H. 18.45–18.35 m.
Mitra. L.26

3. Fragment of a votive bowl with extended rim and two lamp-cups.
H. 4.4 cm, L. 10.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3064.
FS. 2 V 16.5–17.0/Cb 0.3–2.2, H. 18.75–18.45 m.
Mitra. L.25
Note: Further specimens of comparable rims with lamps registered as finds nos. So III A 1896; 1979; 3035; 3261; 3455; 3707.

4. Fragmentary rectangular votive tank with one lamp-cup preserved on the rim. Spots of fracture prove it to be a tank of type 2 with integrated temple and applied snakes etc on the ground. A whitish mark indicates the water level of the filled vessel. The fracture spots to the left of the lamp are remains of the platform fastened to the wall. The stub on the ground marks the end of the ladder reaching to the platform (cp. no. 6)
25.6 × 27.5 × 9.0 cm. Red-brown. No. So III A 2689.
FS. 2 V 10.5/Ca 15.6, H. 18.36 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: Further specimens of this type registered under So III A 2317; 2893.

5. Fragment of a votive tank with integrated temple on a pillar-supported platform.
27.5 × 27.0 × 9.6 cm. Brown. No. So III A 3081.
FS. 2 V 12.5/Ca 19.5, H. 18.20 m. Mitra. L.27

6. Mutilated votive tank of type B. The now widely damaged rims of the enclosure walls were originally carrying lamps and birds in regular intervals. Aquatic animals like snake, fish and frog are applied to the bottom of the vessel. A strong stalk-like pillar carries a lotus rosette in full bloom, which is to be imagined as floating on water. A platform rests on four thick columns as well as on one side of the wall. A ladder leads down to the ground of the vessel. An oval temple, now roofless, stands on the platform.
This vessel was used for the *pūjā* in a private house. Shaped as a water tank and showing a ladder from the ground to the platform, the belief that here a water-god was worshipped may be justified. It is even possible that this vessel was used for a *Nāga* ritual.
32.0 × 36.0 × 14.5 cm. Dirty brown. No. So I 275.
FS.2 V 2.1/Ca 14.0, H. 19.55 m. Late Mitra. L.25/24
Note: Further fragments of this type of votive tank are registered under nos. So I 247; So III A 2684; 3368.

7. Full-blown lotus on a thick stalk, from the bottom of a votive tank of type 2.

H. 8.7 cm. Colour: dirty grey. No. So III A 2322.
FS. 2 V 16.3/Ca 14.0, H. 19.65 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: Further lotus stalks of votive tanks of this period registered under So III A 2245; 3028.

8. Temple of a votive tank in the shape of a circular tent with pointed roof. The building rested on two columns one of which is preserved. The rear part was, as indicated by a fracture line on the base, fixed to the wall of the tank. The platform on which the building stands is broken away all around.
H. 14.9 cm. Temple 9.1 cm. Colour: light brown.
No. So I 10. FS. Trench 1, B. 35, H. 18.20 m.
Mitra. L.27

9. Fragment of a votive tank temple in shape of a hut. Platform broken away around the base of the building.
H. 7.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 222.
FS. 3 I 4.0–7.3/Ca 13.0–15.5, H. 18.95–18.65 m.
Mitra. L.26

10. Fragment of a small temple from a votive tank. Entrance modelled like a curved arc with three pinnacles. In the lower part the building was decorated with incised horizontal strokes.
H. 14.8 cm. Colour: red-brown. No. So III A 3109.
FS. 2 V 9.5–10.5/Cb 5.2–9.5, H. 19.40–19.22 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24

11. Triangular temple from a votive tank. Platform missing. Two pinnacles on the ridge of the roof.
H. 5.8 cm. L. 6.2 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1975.
FS. 3 I 5.0–7.0/Ca 13.5–17.4, H. 19.60–19.40 m.
Late Mitra. L.25
Note: Two further specimens of this temple type registered under So III A 2250; 2251.

12. Fragmentary votive tank. Round basin with integrated round building (temple). On the ground a snake and a bird (or tortoise?). Upon the partly damaged rim of the enclosure one double-lamp is preserved.
H. 6.3 cm. Ø 27.8 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 323.
FS. 2 V 9.6/Ca 2.0, H. 18.95 m. Mitra. L.26
Note: One further fragment with temple integrated in the bottom is to be found registered as no. So III A 1995.

13. Votive tank in the form of a narrow yard with presumably four houses clustering around it. Three of the houses are fully preserved. They have domed roofs with three peaks each which correspond to the pinnacles on stable structures. The houses are joined in a right angle and encircle a small courtyard. Their outer walls merge together with the wall of the vessel. The yard has only one entrance which leads through a passage into the court from where the other houses can be entered. Remains of a staircase in front of the entrance and some markings at the base indicate that, originally, the vessel rested on supports. A tree seems to have grown beside the entrance; traces of its crown are still visible on the roof.
The features characteristic of a tank can only be made out at its corners and by its fractured edges, the use of this object as a votive tank cannot be doubted.
18.5 × 19.5 × 12.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 223.
FS. 3 I 3.6/Ca 16.9, H. 18.90 m. Mitra. L.26

14. Round votive tank. Two lamp-cups and traces of a third one are preserved upon the rim of the enclosure. One ladder is applied to the inner wall. On the ground two snakes and one frog are applied.
H. 9.2 cm. Ø 20.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3227.
FS. 2 V 14.45/Cb 9.6, H. 18.75 m. Mitra. L.25

15. Round votive tank. Strongly chaff-tempered and hand-made. One ladder applied to the inner wall. Two snakes shaped on the ground.
H. 8.8 cm. Ø 28.7 cm. Red slipped. No. So I 257.
FS. 2 V 16.0/Ca 4.2, H. 19.40 m. Mitra. L.25
Note: Fragments of staircases registered under So III A 3130; 3453.

Period IV. Votive tanks from Levels 24 to 22

16. Fragmentary votive tank with the remaining four of originally seven or eight figures of Mother Goddesses seated on the bottom with a bowl in their lap. As to the figures and the use of the tank see the description under no. 79 of the human terracotta figurines.
26.0 × 26.0 × 14.8 cm. Colour: brown with red slip.
No. So I 325. FS. 2 V 1.3/Cc 5.5, H. 18.85 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

17. Mutilated basin of a votive tank of type B. Remains of two birds upon the rim of the enclosure walls. Fracture mark at the spot where the temple platform joined the walls and two stubs on the bottom, indicating columns which originally supported the structure. No aquatic animals on the ground.
31.3 × 24.5 × 9.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2688.
FS. 2 V 13.9/Cb 11.9, H. 19.25 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

18. Fragment of a round votive tank with traces of two lamp-cups and a ladder applied to both sides of the wall.
H. 9.6 cm. L. 20.8 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 3304.
FS. 2 IV 14.5–2 V 0.5/Ca 7.0–9.5, H. 20.35–20.05 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23
Note: Further fragments with ladders on both sides registered as finds nos. So III A 1977; 3347.

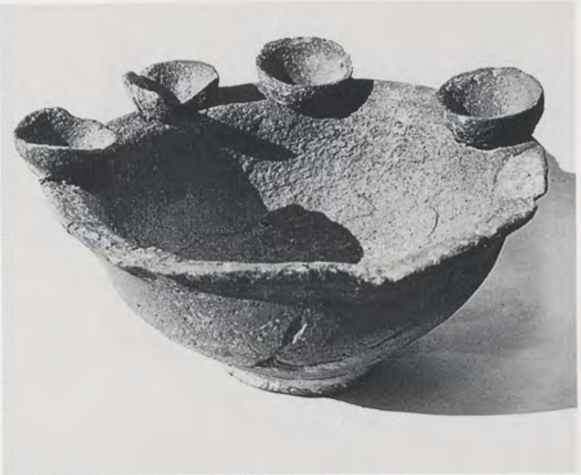
Period V. Votive tanks from Levels 22 to 15

19. Fragmentary votive tank with four figures seated in rows of two on opposite sides of the enclosure. Three of the figures are preserved, of the fourth only traces are visible.
23.0 × 18.0 × 4.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2037.
FS. 3 I 2.6/Cb 2.0, H. 20.63 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.21

20. Fragment of a votive tank with seated human figure of primitive shape.
H. 6.6 cm. B. 9.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So I 306.
FS. 2 IV 8.6/Ca 14.5, H. 21.60 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21
Note: Further fragments of seated human figures from votive tanks of this period registered under So III A 2190; 3168.

21. Votive bowl. Wheel-made. Surface of vessel strongly grooved. Remains of a bird (?) upon broad rim.
Ø 28.4 cm. Colour: brick-red. No. So II 2129.
FS.3 I 3.6/Cb 0.4, H. 20.40 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21
Note: Further fragments of this type of bowl registered as finds nos. So II 1989; So III A 2295; 2368; 2817.

22. Votive bowl with four birds upon broad rim. Wheel-made, grooved as no. 21. On the ground a snake, frog and fish.
Ø 29.8 cm. Colour: brick-red. No. So I 199.
FS. 2 V 10.5/Cb 4.5, H. 21.85 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20
Note: Further fragments of votive bowls of this type registered under So II 2098; So III A 1669; 2710.



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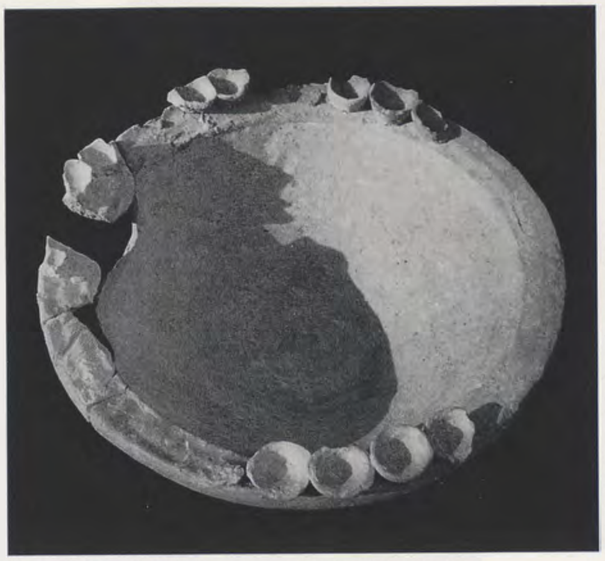

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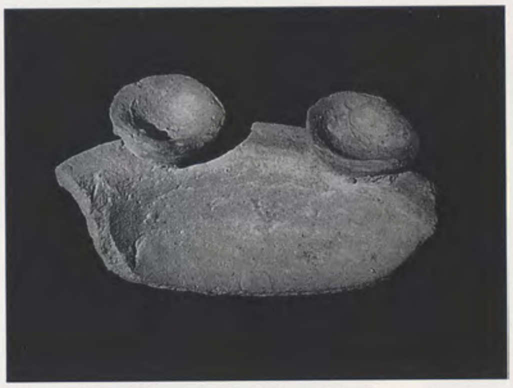

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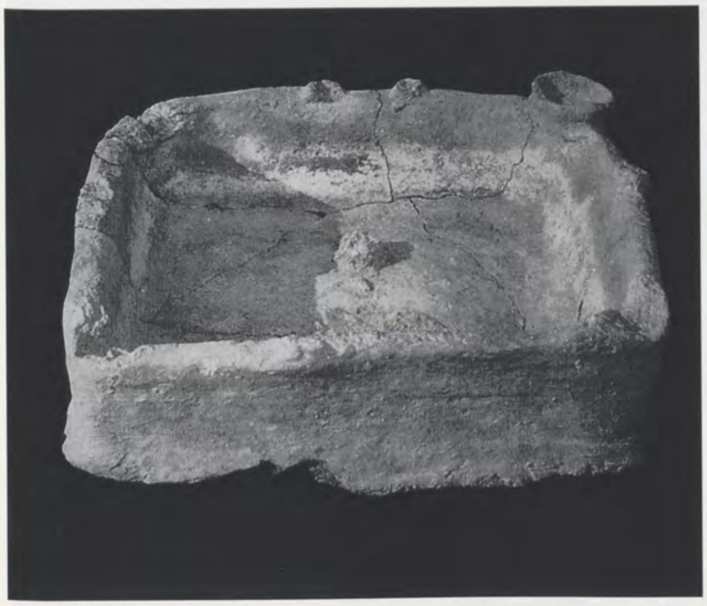

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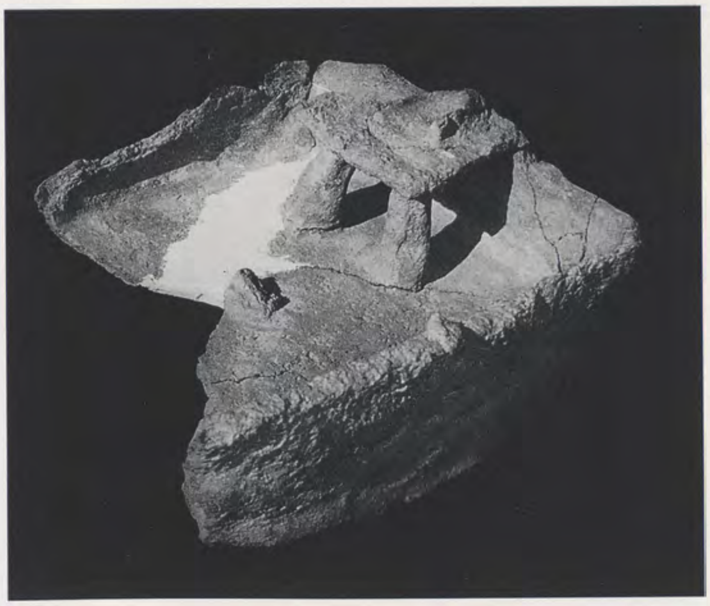

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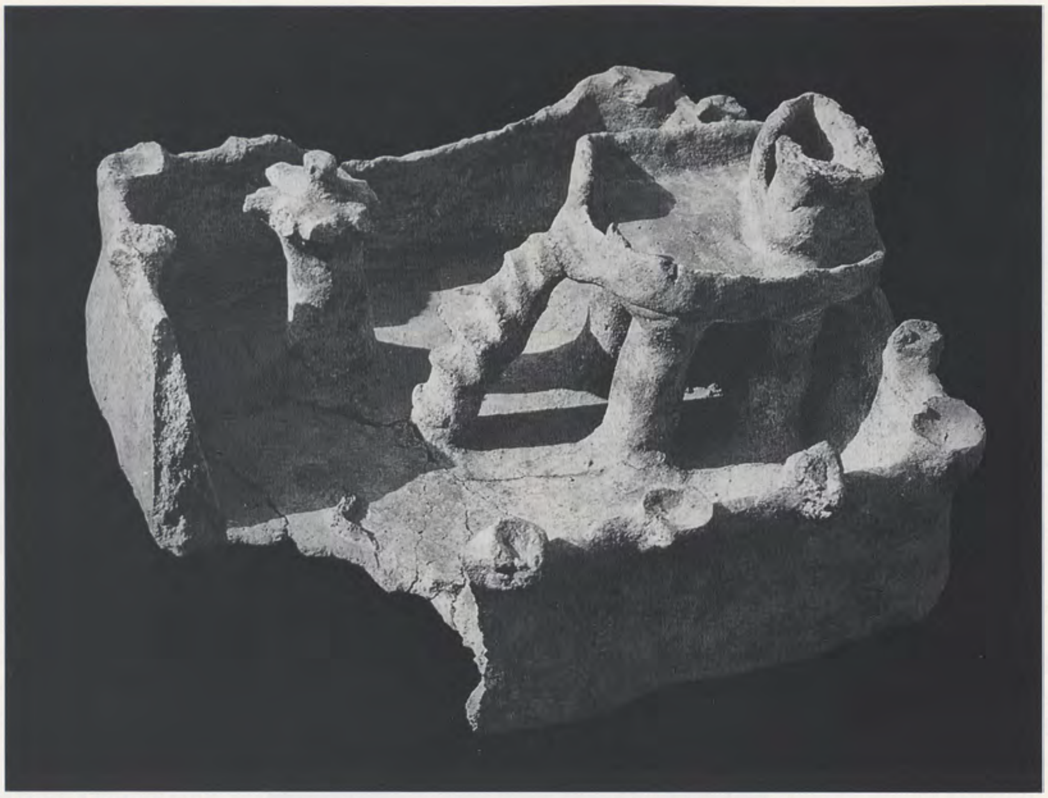
Terracotta Votive Tanks. Period III



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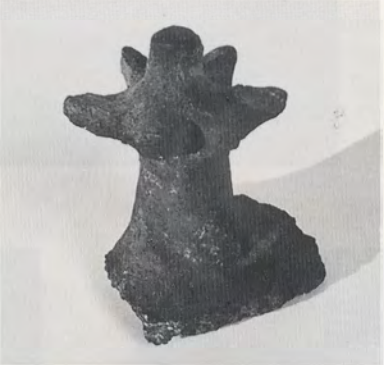

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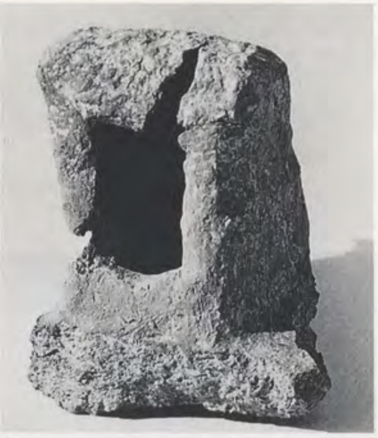

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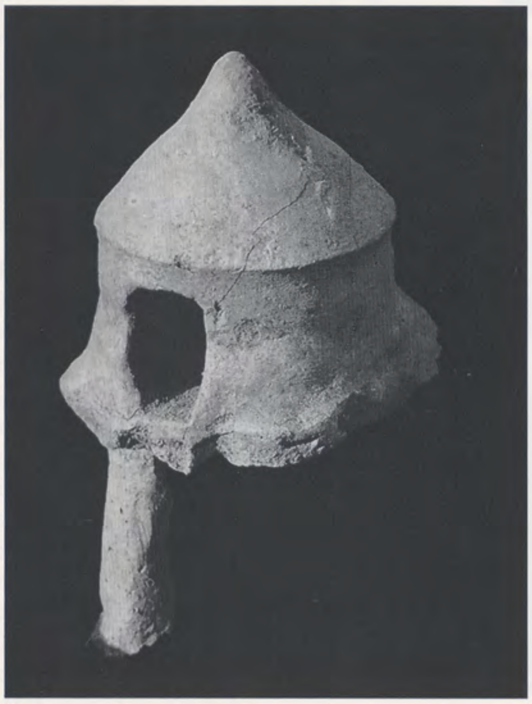

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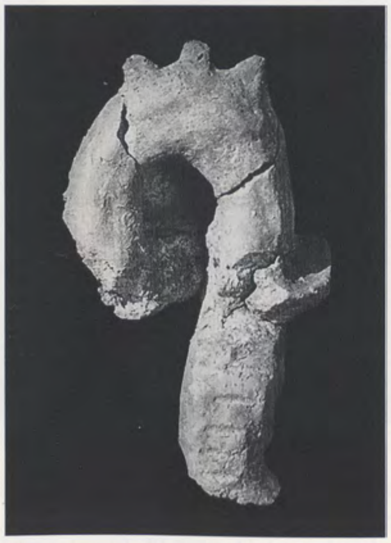

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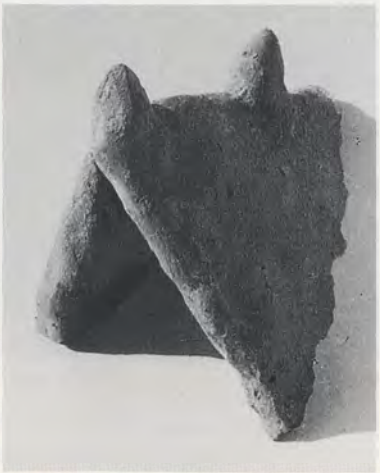

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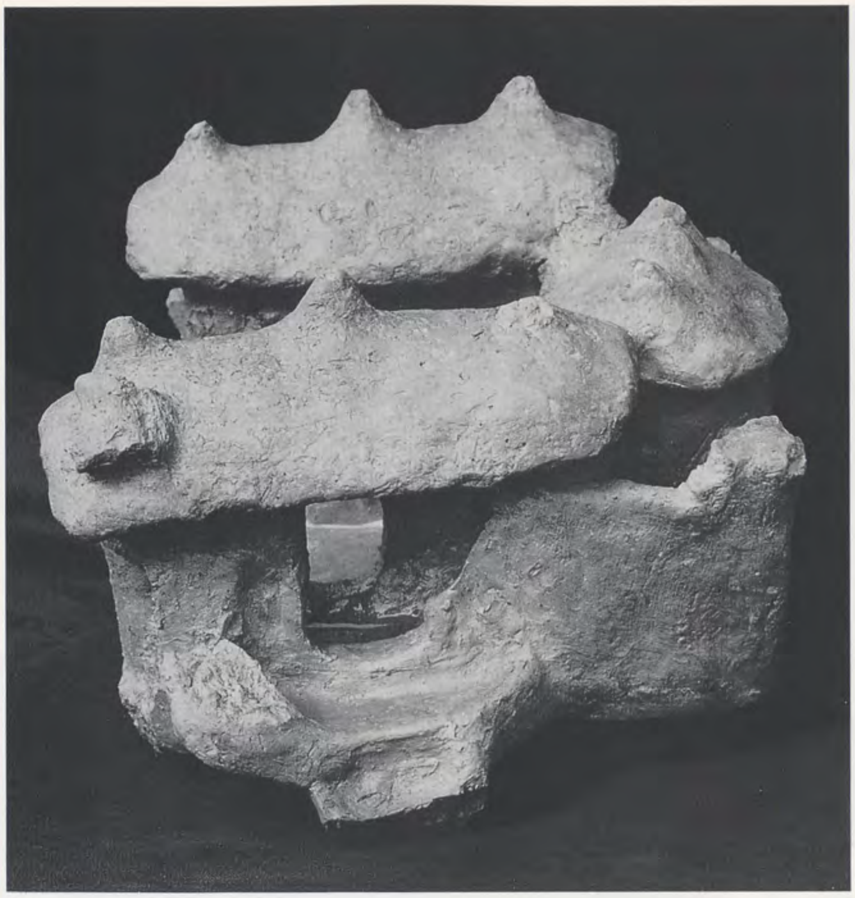
Terracotta Votive Tanks. Period III



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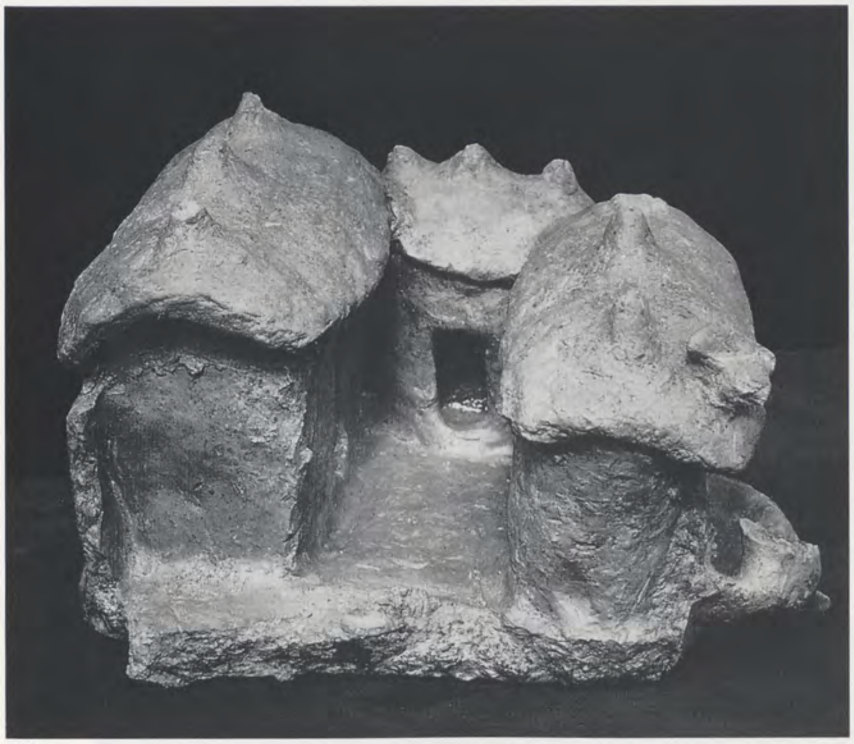

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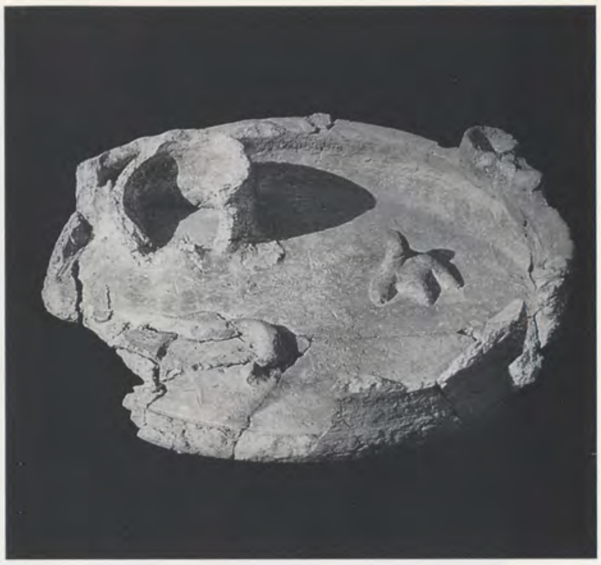

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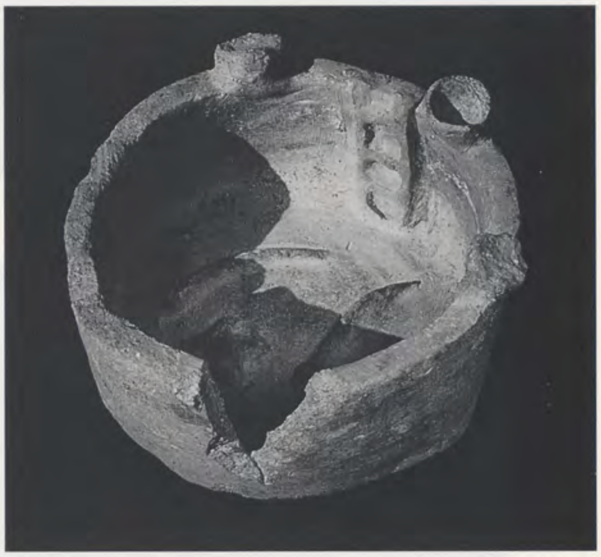

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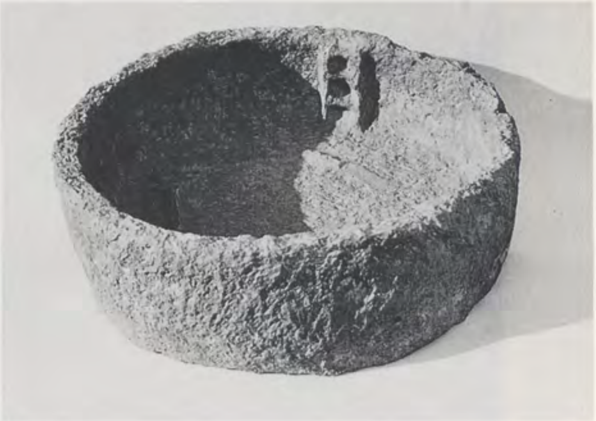

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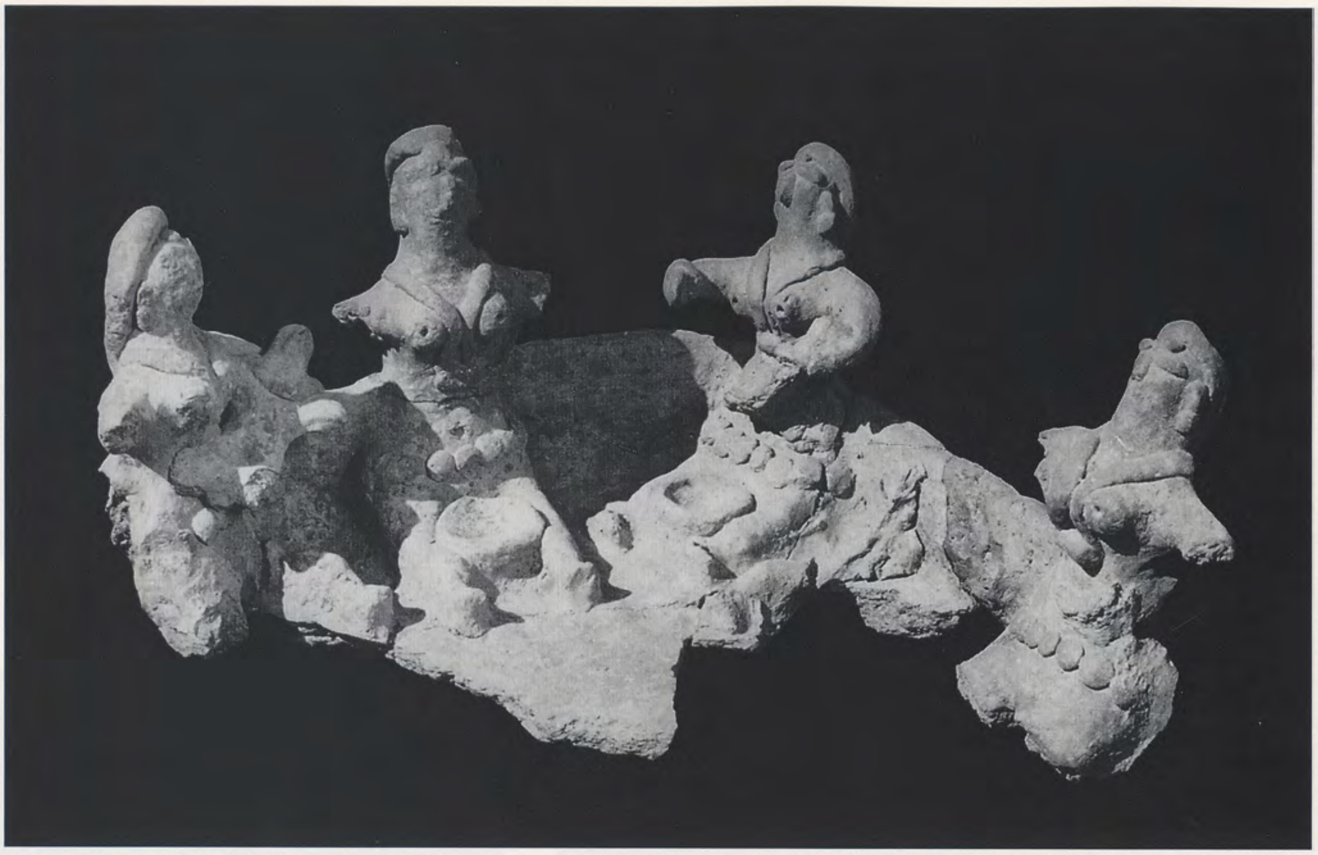

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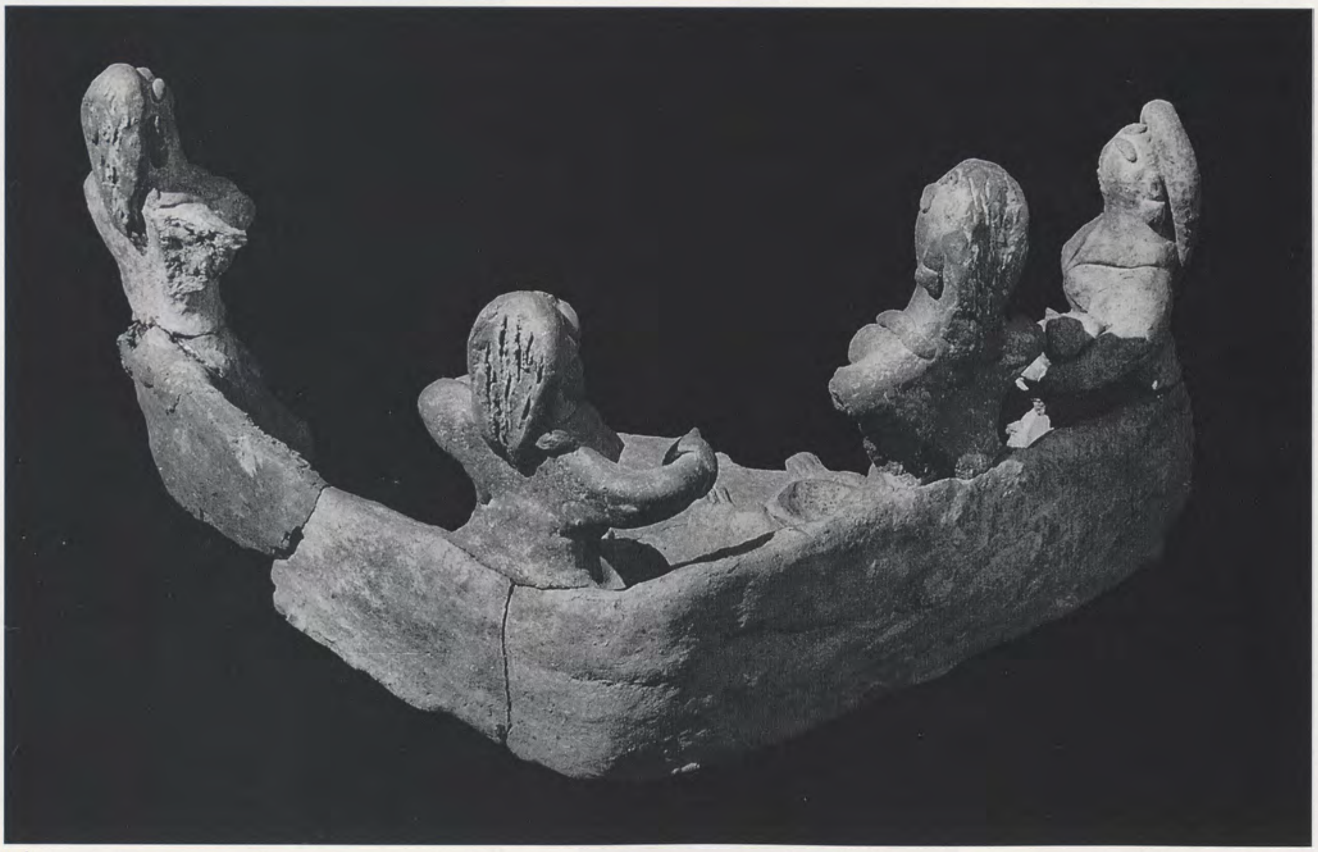

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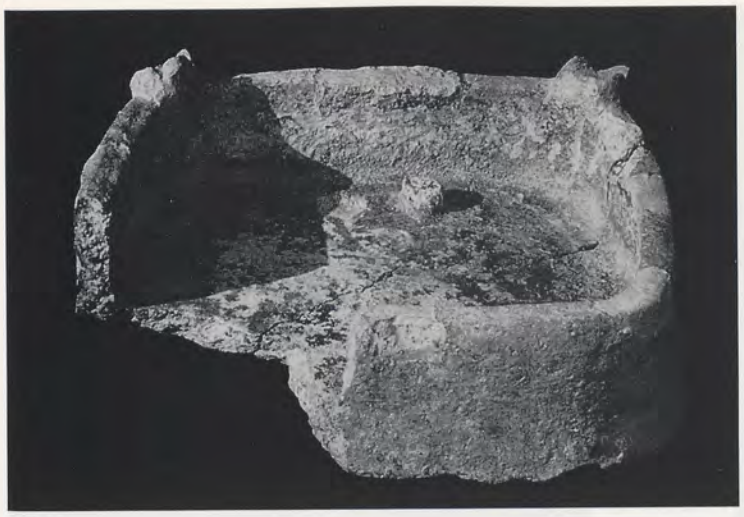
Terracotta Votive Tanks. Period IV



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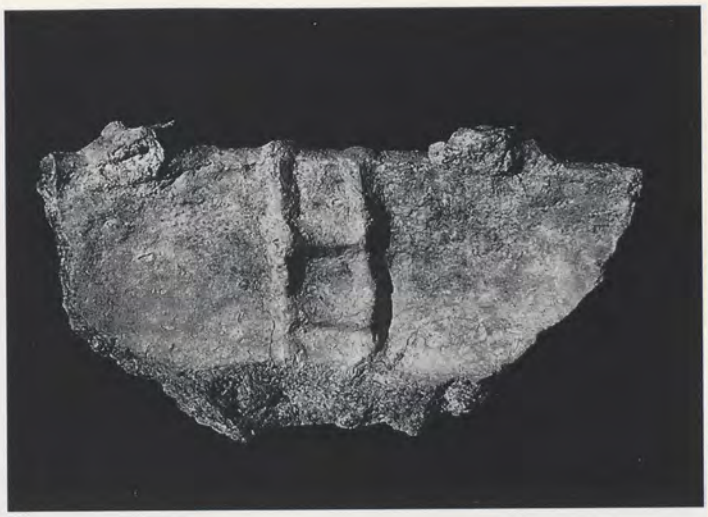

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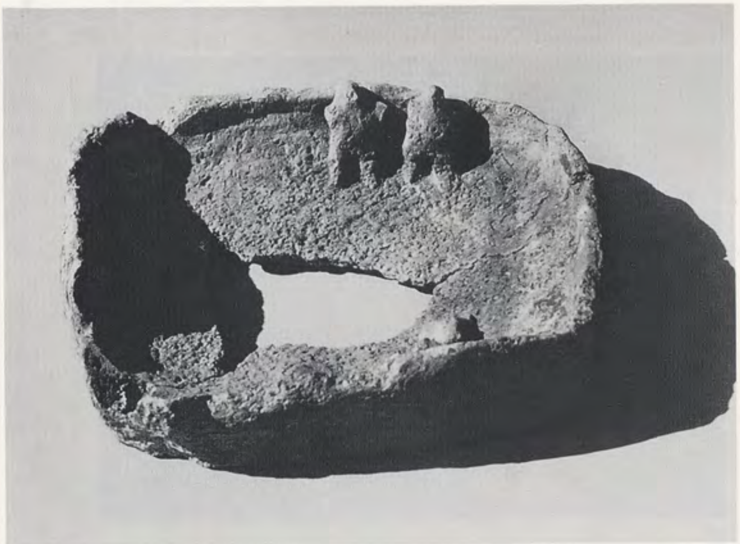

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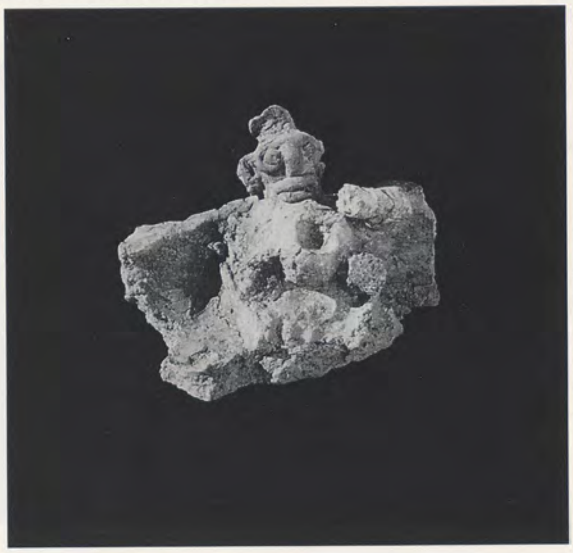

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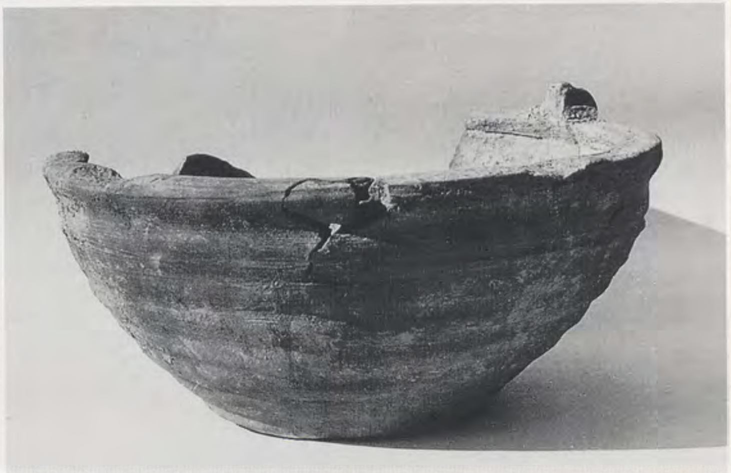

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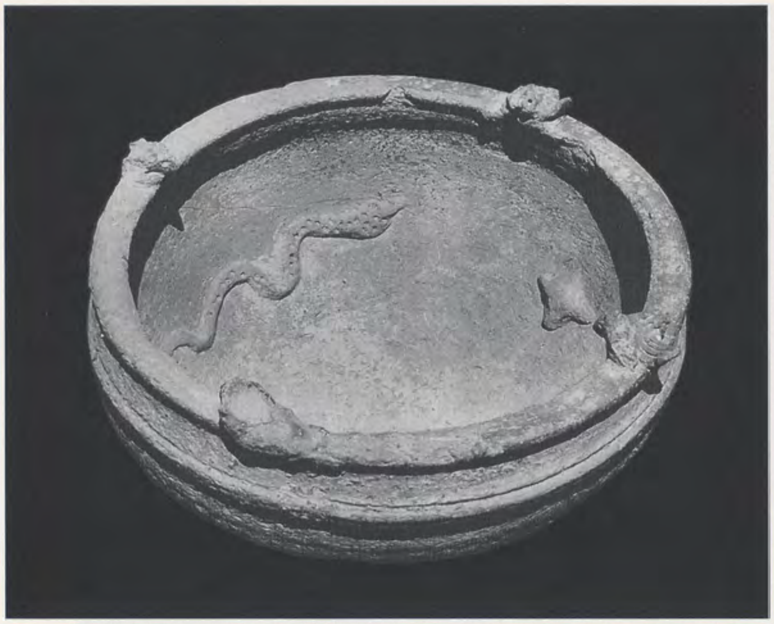
Terracotta Votive Tanks. Period IV–V



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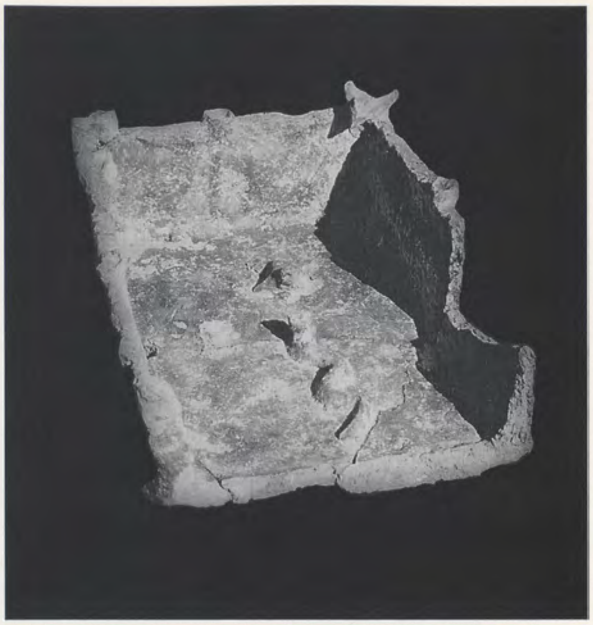

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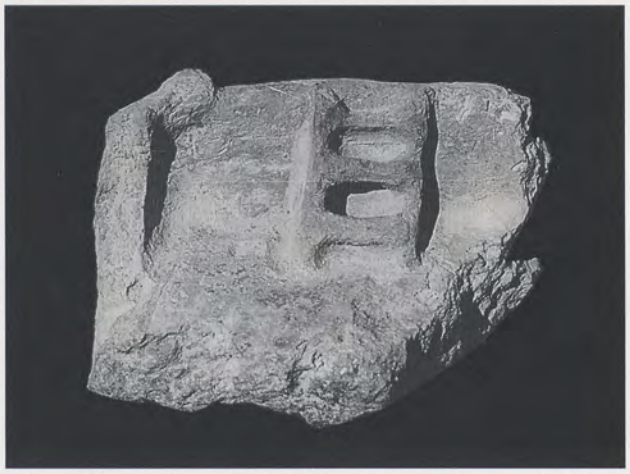

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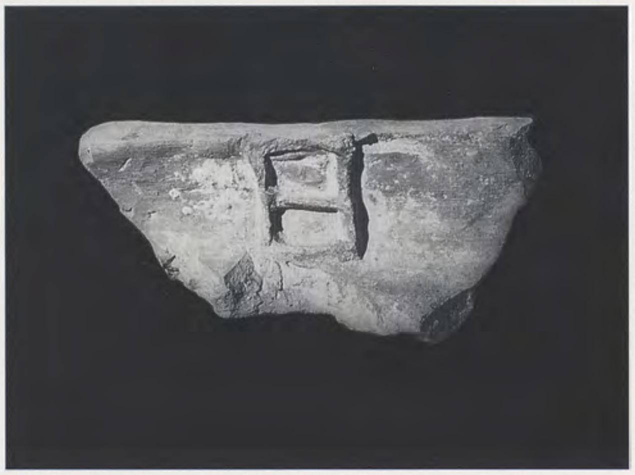

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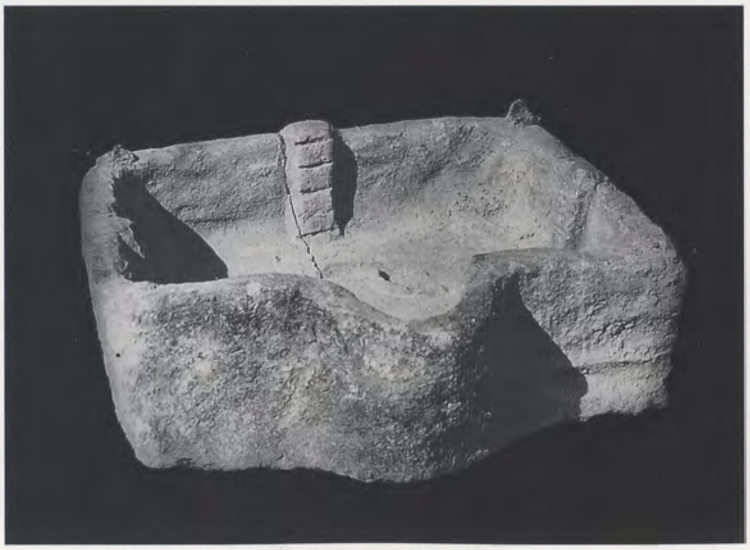

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Terracotta Votive Tanks. Period V–VI

23. Fragmentary votive tank of rectangular shape and with alternating birds and lamp-cups upon the rim. On the ground a snake and a tortoise facing each other.
H. 9.3 cm. L. 29.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 148.
FS.2 IV 15.3/Ca 16.7, H. 23.60 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

24. Fragment of rectangular votive tank with a ladder applied to the wall.
H. 8.2 cm. B. 10.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1028.
FS. 2 IV 13.65/Cb 19.4, H. 22.80 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17

25. Fragment of a votive tank with ladder.
H. 5.8 cm. L. 16.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 900.
FS. 2 V 0.5–5.5/Cc 0.5–5.5, H. 23.80–23.30 m. L.15/14
Note: Further fragment with ladder and snake registered as find no. So III A 813.

Period VI. Votive tanks from Levels 15 to 12

26. Votive tank and water jug found side by side. Remains of birds or lamps upon rim which is provided with a spout on one side. One ladder each on the other three sides of the enclosure. A snake and frog (?) applied to the bottom.
31.5 × 31.0 × 8.5 cm. Jug: H. 18.5 cm. Colour: brown, blackened by fire. No. So I 89–90.
FS. 2 IV 6.0–6.8/Ca 15.8–16.2, H. 25.20–24.80 m.
Early Medieval. L.12
Note: One fragment of spouted votive tank similar to no. 26 registered as find no. So III A 306.

Toy-carts

The number of fragments of toy-carts found at Sonkh amounts to 41 altogether. They range from the Śuṅga Cultural Phase to the Kuṣāṇas. Many fragments are just crude parts of the platform, or the pole of a cart. Others belonged to more sophisticated and decorated types, esp. those found in the Mitra levels. These earlier carts are, as a rule, provided with not seldom impressive side-planks, either upright or slanting. The later type shows rows of holes in the platform indicating a more simple construction of the planks with the help of rods. There are no fragments of carts from Periods I and II and from a time later than the Kuṣāṇas.

Period III–IV. Toy-carts from Levels 29 to 24

1. Mutilated toy-cart with planks at the sides and in the rear. The rim of the side-planks swings outwards, being decorated with rosette-like discs. Same sort of decoration is applied to the outside of the planks, while the rear one is stamped with a grid-pattern. The axle-hole runs right through the bottom leaving a groove on the ground. On the bottom of the platform a fractured stub is visible, presumably remains of a driver. The pole of the cart is shaped like a bull's head with horns and a perforation. Curiously, two horses were standing upon the coach-box one of which is sufficiently preserved for identification. At the rear of the cart, a hook is visible on the left while a second one is broken off on the right side. As to the wheels, see under WHEELS, no. 8.
9.0. × 16.3 × 9.0 cm. Brick-red. No. So I 203.
FS. 3 I 12.5/Ca 15.15, H. 16.60 m (pit from 29).
Late Śuṅga C.P., L.29

2. Fragment of a toy-cart. Edges being decorated with impressed leaves.
H. 2.0 cm. L. 6.5 cm. Brick-red. No. So III A 3342.
FS. 2 IV 14.0–15.5/Cc 1.5–9.5, H. 17.20–17.05 m.
Early Mitra. L.28

3. Fragment of a toy-cart showing curved pole ending in a hook. A perforation for the yoking runs through the pole, but those for the wheels are pierced through pending semicircular axle-holders attached to the middle of the cart.
L. 13.1 cm. B. 6.4 cm. Brick-red. No. So III A 2219.
FS. 3 I 6.0/Ca 16.7, H. 17.90 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: Further fragments with pending axle devices from L.27 registered as nos. So III A 2167; 2217.

4. Thill of a toy-cart.
L. 6.7 cm. B. 6.1 cm. Brown. No. So III A 2166.
FS. 3 I 5.1/Ca 16.4, H. 18.05 m. Mitra. L.27

5. Tongue of a toy-cart. Vertical perforation for yoking animals to the cart. Side-planks broken off.
L. 5.0 cm. B. 2.9 cm. Brick-red. No. So III 3003.
FS. 2 V 2.8–4.5/Ca 9.5–15.5, H. 18.64–18.40 m.
Mitra. L.26
Note: One further specimen with perforated tongue registered as find no. So III A 3649.

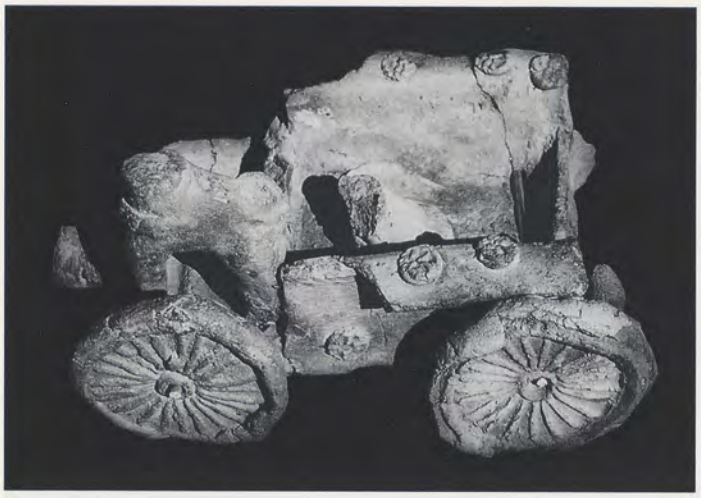
6. Fragment of a toy-cart. Bottom decorated with stamped grid, slanting side-plank with vertical grooves. Outer sides plain. Traces of applied axle-holder on one side of the base.
L. 8.5 cm. B. 6.0 cm. Brick-red. No. So III A 3378.
FS. 2 V 10.5–16.2/Cb 13.4–16.0, H. 18.75–18.55 m.
Mitra. L.25

7. Side-plank of a toy-cart decorated with moulded rosettes.
L. 8.4 cm. Colour: brick-red. No. So III A 2694.
FS. 2 V 2.0–4.0/Ca 12.3–15.0, H. 19.75–19.50 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: One further fragment with applied rosettes: So III A 2488.

Period V. Toy-carts from Levels 22 to 15

8. Platform of a toy-cart. Perforated for the axle in the middle of the length. On the long sides of the bottom a line of presumably eleven holes each for fastening rods.
8.1 × 5.7 cm. Colour: brick-red. No. So III A 1503.
FS. 2 IV 0.5 -6.0/Cb 16.0–19.5, H. 22.02–21.57 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19.
Note: One further fragment of same type registered as So III A 751

9. Fragment of the platform of a toy-cart with originally six vertical holes for the rods. At the small side a shallow excavation and a large hole for fastening a cart-pole is visible.
H. 1.6 cm. L. 3.2 cm. Brick-red. No. So III A 915.
FS. 15.0–18.0/Cb 4.0–5.0, H. 22.70–22.40 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18
Note: Further fragments from Period V with six rod-holes in the platform registered as finds nos. So III A 669; 949; 1289; 2092.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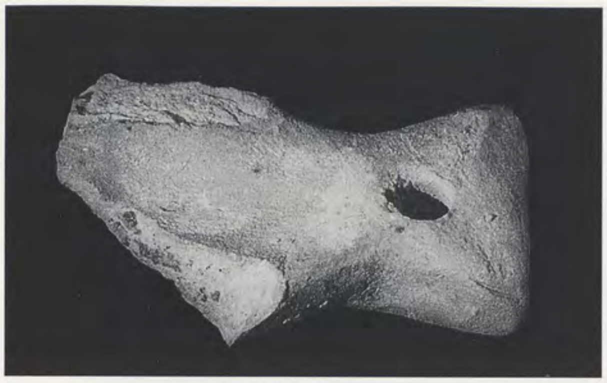
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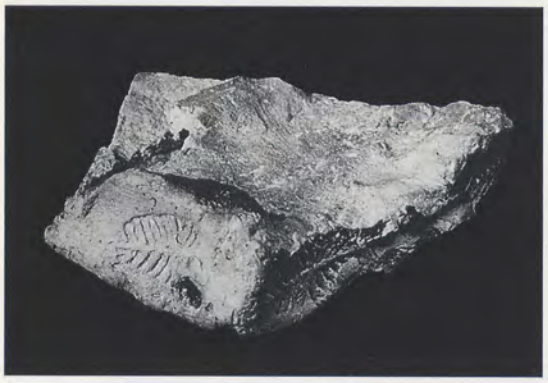
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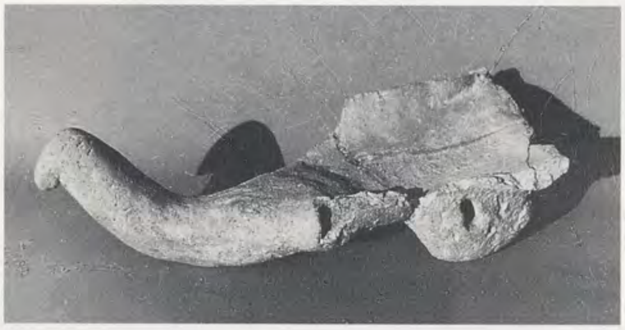
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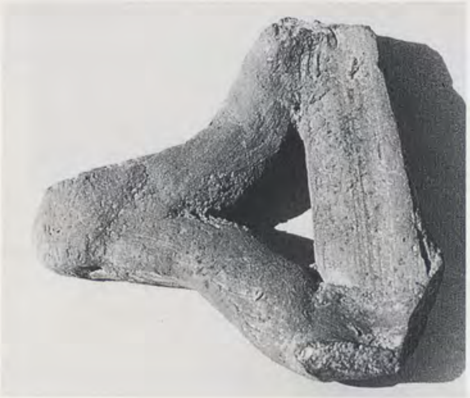
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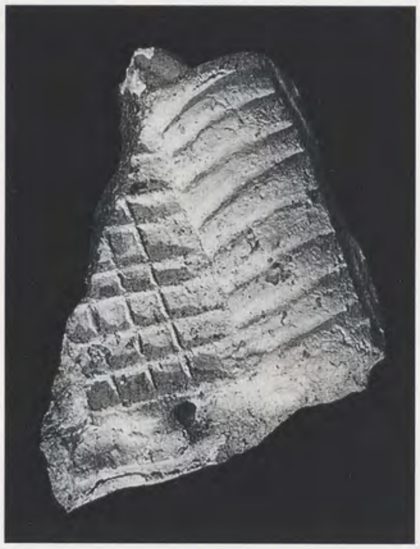
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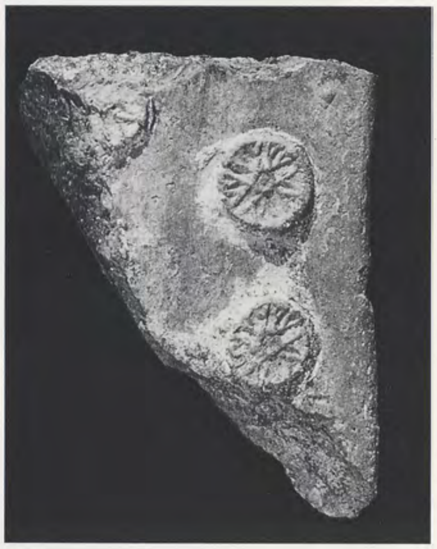
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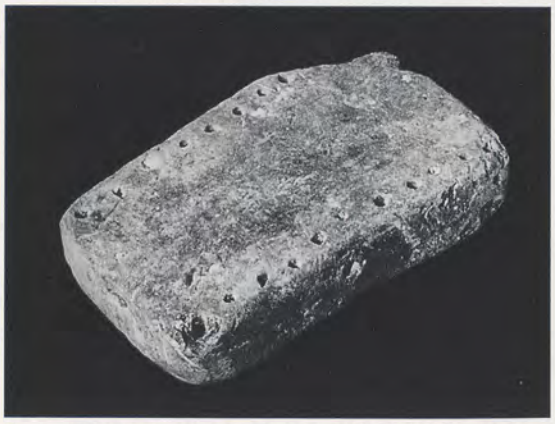
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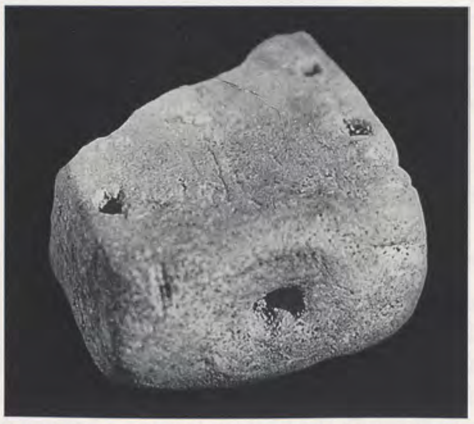
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Terracotta Toy-carts. Period III–IV (1–7), Period V (8–9)

Wheels

Of all the 291 specimens of terracotta wheels recovered at Sonkh, 247 of them are plain and 44 decorated mostly with spokes. The diameter varies between 2.3 and 9.2 cms, indicating that the wheels were transporting objects of different size, like toy animals and carts. The finds hail from levels 34 to 14, i.e. from period II to VI. Several plain types appear through all these periods though with some variations in details, as e.g. the structure of the axle-hubs. Lenticular wheels (no. 16) have been found only from level 23 onwards, and types with strongly protruding axles (nos. 19, 21, 23–25) came to light exclusively in the Kuṣāṇa levels. The decoration with spokes, as a rule moulded, begins with the Śuṅga Cultural Phase and is quite in fashion in the Mitra time of Mathura. The number of spokes varies in between 9 and 34 but obviously without any deeper meaning. From a later period, very few specimens only of decorated wheels are known, their decorations being clumsily incised (nos. 24–26).

Period II–III. Wheels from Levels 34 to 24

1. Double-convex wheel. Crudely made.
Diam. 4.5 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1961.
FS. 3 I 10.8/Ca 16.3, H. 14.50 m. Maurya. L.34

2. Wheel with pricked holes around axle-perforation.
Diam. 3.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3638.
FS. 2 IV 6.5–10.5/Cc 3.8–5.5, H. 15.85–15.65 m.
Maurya. L.33/32

3. Wheel. Both sides plane with thrown up edges around perforation.
Diam. 7.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3400.
FS. 2 IV 2.0–4.2/Cc 8.1–9.5, H. 15.80–15.70 m.
Maurya. L.33/32
Note: 18 further specimens of this type from period II/III registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.3 and 7.0 cm.

4. Wheel. Both sides plane surface.
Diam. 7.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3466.
FS. 2 IV 17.-18.15/Cc 0.5–9.5, H. 16.30–15.15 m.
Late Maurya. L.32/31
Note: 35 further wheels of this type from period II/III registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.0 and 7.2 cm.

5. Wheel with prominent hub on the obverse. Reverse plain.
Diam. 2.9 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3695.
FS. 2 IV 11.2–14.8/Cc 8.5–9.5, H. 16.00–15.80 m.
Maurya. L.32
Note: 5 further wheels of this type from Period II/III registered under So III A. Diameter between 4.0 and 6.1 cm.

6. Wheel with 9 moulded spokes around a prominent hub on the obverse. Reverse plain and uneven.
Diam. 8.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3309.
FS. 2 IV 12.7–14.0/Cc 0.5–9.5, H. 17.20–17.05 m.
Early Mitra. L.28

7. Wheel with 12 moulded spokes around a hub on the obverse. Reverse plain.
Diam. 8.4 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1587.
FS. 3 I 6.5–8.9/Ca 14.85–17.6, H. 18.68–17.80 m.
Mitra. L.27/26
Note: 6 further wheels with 12 and one with 18 spokes from Period II/III registered under So III A. Diameter between 7.0 and 8.3 cm.

8. Wheel with 22 moulded spokes around thrown up edge of perforation hole.
Diam. 6.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2355.
FS. 3 I 8.2/Ca 14.0, H. 17.80 m. Early Mitra. L.28
Note: 2 further wheels with 22 spokes registered under So III A. Diameter 6.2–6.5 cm.

9. Moulded wheel with prominent central hub from which 21 spokes radiate. At the ends of the spokes an elevated dot each. Reverse plane.
Diam. 7.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2593.
FS. 2 V 11.7/Ca 3.5, H. 18.80 m. Mitra. L.26
Note: 5 further wheels of this type with varying number of spokes (13, 17, 20, 24) from Period III registered under So III A. Diameter between 4.7 and 8.7 cm.

10. Moulded wheel with 32 spokes around central hub. Dot between the ends of two spokes each.
Diam. 7.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1589.
FS. 3 I 6.5–8.9/Ca 14.85–17.6, H. 18.68–17.80 m.
Mitra. L.27/26
Note: 2 further specimens with 32 spokes under So III A.

11. Moulded wheel with three-stepped central hub encircled by a lower wreath and an elevated rim with short spokes as well as a plain outer ring with upturned edge. Reverse plane.
Diam. 6.65 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1474.
FS. 3 II 0.0–1.75/Ca 16.5–19.5, H. 18.24–17.75 m.
Mitra. L.28/27

12. Wheel with two-stepped central hub radiating 34 short spokes towards upturned edge. Reverse plane.
Diam. 7.2 cm. Colour: red slip. No. So III A 1586.
FS. 3 I 6.5–8.9/Ca 14.85–17.6, H. 18.68–17.80 m.
Mitra. L.27/26
Note: One further specimen of same 34-spokes' type registered as So III A 1585.

Period IV–VI. Wheels from Levels 24 to 15

13. Plane wheel. Crudely modelled.
Diam. 4.2 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2649.
FS. 2 V 4.0–5.0/Ca 19.0–19.5, H. 20.30–20.15 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23
Note: 7 further wheels of this type from Period IV registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.2 and 5.3 cm.

14. Plain wheel with small hub.
Diam. 4.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3223.
FS. 2 V 13.5–15.9/Cb 11.0–13.75, H. 18.95–18.70 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: 10 further wheels of same type registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.3 and 6.0 cm.

15. Plano-convex wheel with slightly elevated centre.
Diam. 5.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3114.
FS. 2 V 0.5–2.3/Cb 9.5–10.5, H. 19.35–19.05 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24/23
Note: 11 further wheels of same type registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.7 and 6.0 cm.

16. Lenticular wheel with flat hub.
Diam. 3.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2021.
FS. 2 V 16.3–20.0/Ca 17.3–19.5, H. 20.55–20.25 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23

17. Wheel. Both sides plane. Perhaps used as spindle-whorl.
Diam. 2.1 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 808.
FS. 2 V 1.5–4.0/Ca 2.5–4.6, H. 22.90–22.60 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18
Note: Further 18 wheels of same type from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.5 and 9.4 cm.

18. Plano-convex wheel with small hub.
Diam. 6.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2993.
FS. 2 V 5.0–9.0/Cb 18.0–19.5, H. 20.60–20.40 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21
Note: 5 further wheels of same type registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.4 and 6.6 cm.

19. Double-convex wheel with prominent hub.
Diam. 2.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 867.
FS. 2 V 3.0–9.5/Ca 19.3–19.5, H. 21.90–21.60 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20
Note: 47 further wheels of same type from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.5 and 8.8 cm.

20. Double-convex wheel with on both sides protruding hubs.
Diam. 4.2 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2077.
FS. 2 IV 9.5–10.5/Ca 1.0–4.75, H. 22.05–21.80 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20
Note: 8 further wheels of same type registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.3 and 4.8 cm.

21. Double-convex wheel with strongly protruding hubs on both sides.
Diam. 7.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1329.
FS. 2 IV 3.0–6.0/Ca 3.0–6.3, H. 22.50–22.25 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19
Note: 2 further wheels with double hubs registered under So III A. Diameter 3.5 and 3.9 cm.

22. Lenticular wheel.
Diam. 4.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2457.
FS. 2 V 9.5–10.5/Ca 17.0–19.5, H. 20.90–20.60 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.22
Note: 21 further wheels of lenticular type from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.3 and 6.2 cm.

23. Big plain wheel with broad hubs.
Diam. 8.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2869.
FS. 2 IV 10.5–11.35/Ca 8.8–9.5, H. 22.30–21.80 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19

24. Fragment of big wheel with on both sides protruding hubs. Arbitrary impression of semicircles along the edge.
Diam. 8.0 cm. Colour: grey-brown. No. So III A 2704.
FS. 2 IV 11.5–19.5/Cb 2.0–3.5, H. 21.88–21.55 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

25. Double-convex wheel with protruding hubs. Clumsily incised spokes at both sides.
Diam. 4.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1303.
FS. 2 V 12.2/Cb 8.2, H. 21.40 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

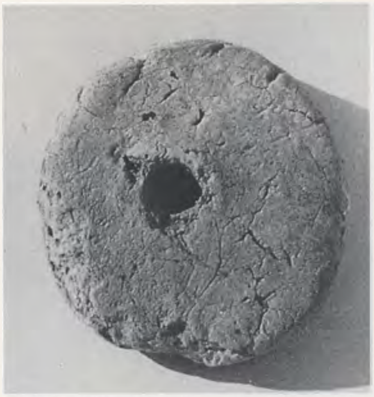
26. Lenticular wheel with protruding hubs. Incised strokes on obverse.
Diam. 3.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1274.
FS. 2 IV 7.5–9.5/Ca 0.5–2.5, H. 22.60–22.10 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19
Note: 2 further fragments of same type of wheels registered under So III A.

27. Plano-convex wheel. Central hub encircled by punched holes.
Diam. 4.0 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1718.
FS. 2 V 6.0–8.0/Cb 0.5–9.5, H. 21.53–21.10 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20

28. Plane wheel. One side rough.
Diam. 4.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 511.
FS. 2 V 16.5–18.3/Ca 16.2–19.5, H. 23.35–23.00 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.16
Note: 4 further wheels of same type registered under So III A.

29. Lenticular wheel.
Diam. 4.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 766.
FS. 2 IV 19.5–2 V 0.5/Ca 10.5–17.5, H. 24.50–24.15 m.
Gupta. L.14

30. Wheel with big hubs.
Diam. 3.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 662.
FS. 2 IV 2.5–4.5/Cb 2.0–9.5, H. 24.25–23.95 m.
Gupta. L.14
Note: One further wheel of same type from L.14 under So III A 837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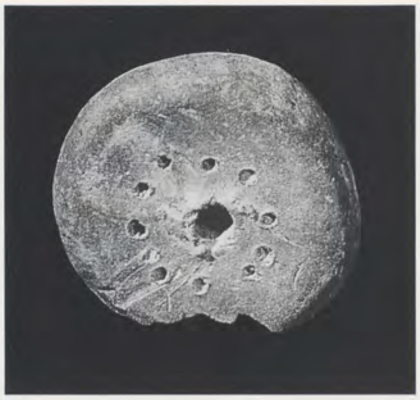
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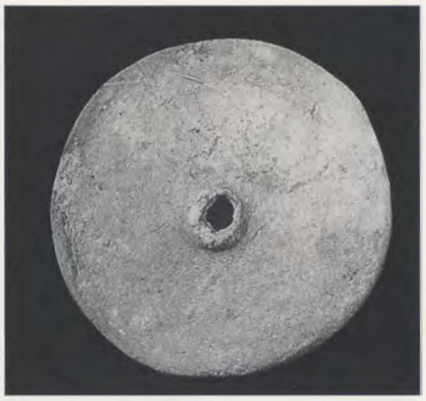
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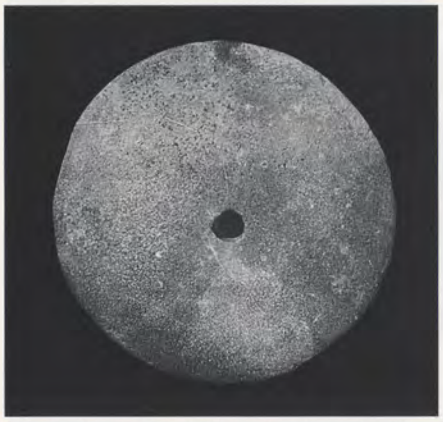
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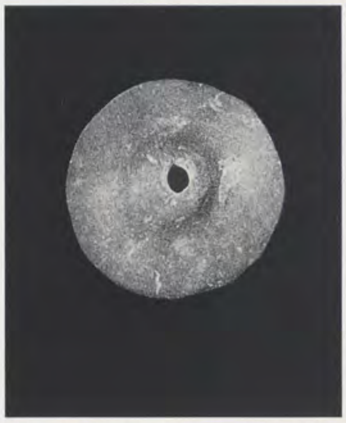
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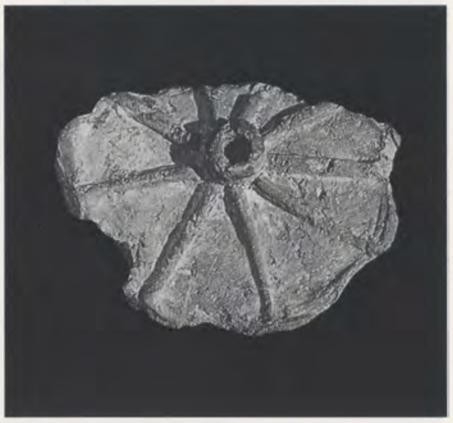
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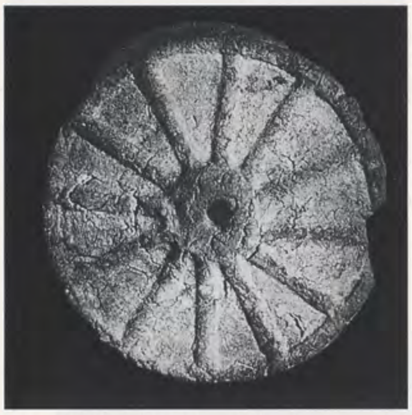
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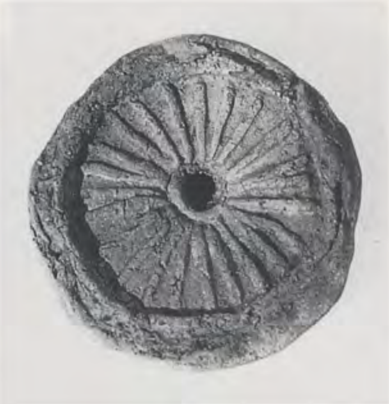
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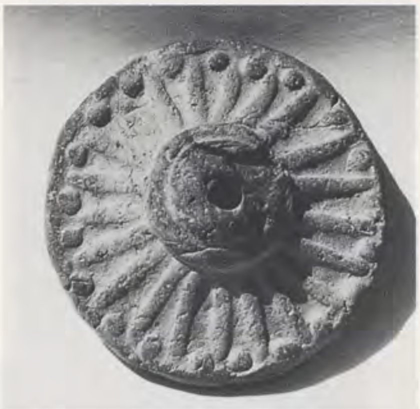
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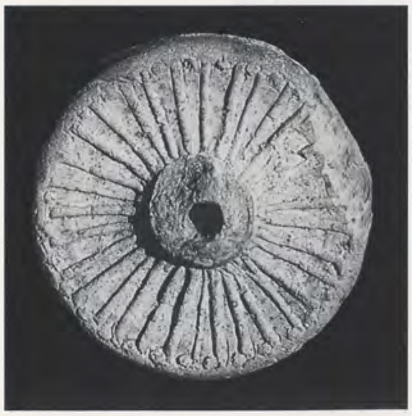
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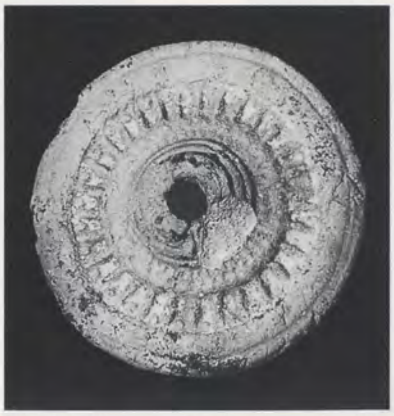
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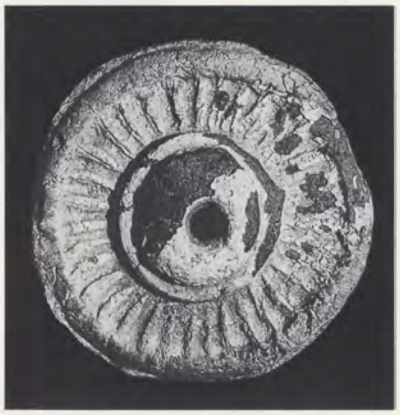
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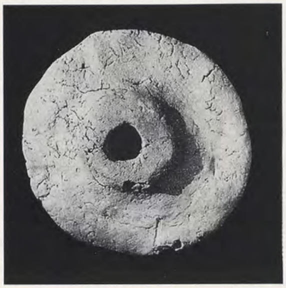
Terracotta Wheels. Period II–III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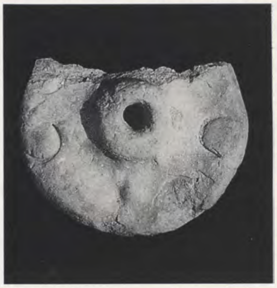
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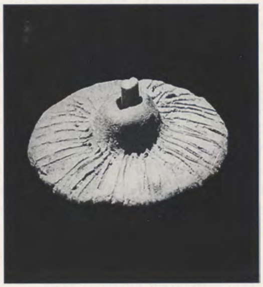
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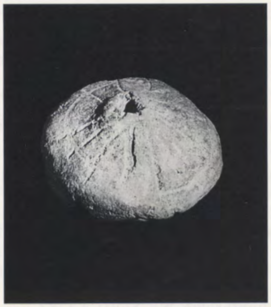
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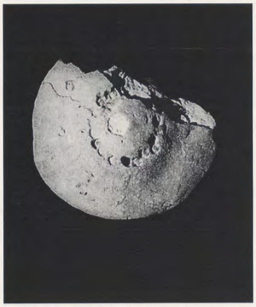
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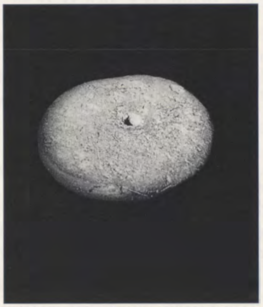
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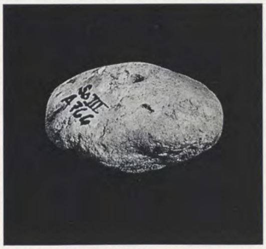

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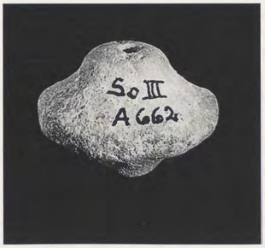

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Terracotta Wheels. Period V–VI

Discs

The number of terracotta discs found in the excavation amounts to 192. Of them 67 are just plain or made of potsherds while 125 show decorations of different kind. The most frequent patterns are straight or oblique notches incised in varying density on the edges of the discs of all periods. The second frequent design is the scalloped border, i.e. the incision or impression of semicircles or crescents around the circumference of the disc. In addition, a restricted number of discs show individual incisions on the plane surfaces. The diameters of the discs range from 2.2 to 7.3 cm, the bulk between 3.0 and 6.0 cm, covering all 10 mm grades from 3.1; 3.2; 3.3 upto 5.8; 5.9; 6.0.

The function of the discs is a matter of discussion among scholars since long (cp. e.g. B.B.Lal 1954 & 1955, pp.87 f., and R.C.Gaur 1983, pp.205 ff.). From all the ideas presented, the interpretation as "gaming counters" seems to be the most probable one.

Period I–III. Discs from Levels 37 to 24

1. Mutilated disc with long oblique notches on edges.
Diam. 3.9 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3128.
FS. 2 IV 8.5–10.0/Be 15.5–19.0, H. 15.70–15.60 m. PGW. L.37

2. Mutilated disc with impressed semicircles on edge and a combination of such arranged as a floral design on plane surface.
Diam. 4.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 3085.
FS. 2 IV 8.0/Be 16.2, H. 16.10 m. Early Maurya. L.36

3. Mutilated disc with deeply impressed semicircles along the edge.
Diam. 4.5 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3644.
FS. 2 IV 12.0–15.0/Cc 1.65–3.25, H. 15.05–14.90 m.
Early Maurya. L.35
Note: Two more specimens with scalloped border from Period II and III registered under So III A. Diameter 3.7 and 5.9 cm.

4. Disc with short and broad notches on edges.
Diam. 5.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2615.
FS. 3 I 5.2–7.5/Ca 7.0–9.0, H. 15.80–15.70 m.
Maurya. L.35
Note: 3 more specimens of same type from periods II/III registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.0 and 5.7 cm.

5. Disc with thin oblique notches on edges.
Diam. 4.75 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1990.
FS. 3 I 10.8–11.9/Ca 16.3–17.5, H. 11.75–11.25 m.
From well. Maurya. L.34
Note: 11 more specimens with thin notches from Periods II/III registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.3 and 6.5 cm.

6. Disc with regular straigth notches on edges.
Diam. 5.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2989.
FS. 2 IV 4.5/Be 13.6, H. 19.20 m. Early Mitra. L.28

7. Disc with long irregularly radiating incised notches on plane surface and edge of one side.
Diam. 4.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3621.
FS. 2 IV 2.6–5.85/Cc 0.65–4.8, H. 15.75–15.60 m.
Maurya. L.32

8. Plain disc.
Diam. 5.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3572.
FS. 2 IV 7.1–10.5/Cc 0.5–2.5, H. 16.55–16.40 m.
Late Maurya/Śuṅga C.P., L.31/30
Note: Two more plain discs from Period II registered under So III A. Diameter 4.1 and 4.4 cm.

9. Disc made from a potsherd.
Diam. 4.3 cm. Colour: greybrown. No. So III A 2140.
FS. 3 I 7.4–10.0/Ca 11.2–15.0, H. 18.30–18.15 m.
Mitra. L.27
Note: 3 further discs of potsherds registered under So III A. Diameter 2.6, 3.6 and 3.9 cm.

Period IV–V. Discs from Levels 24 to 15

10. Mutilated disc with oblique incised notches gradated in groups.
Diam. 3.2 cm. Colour: greybrown. No. So III A 3658.
FS. 3 I 1.3–2.0/Cb 15.4–19.5, H. 19.12–18.78 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: 3 more discs of same type from period IV registered under So III A. Diameter 3.1, 4.1 and 4.5 cm.

11. Cake-shaped disc with irregularly incised notches on rounded edges.
Diam. 3.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1265.
FS. 2 IV 5.0–9.5/Ca 16.0–18.3, H. 22.60–22.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19
Note: 16 more specimens of same type from period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.5 and 6.5 cm.

12. Disc with thin notches along the edges.
Diam. 3.8 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2798.
FS. 2 IV 19.5–2 V 0.5/Be 19.0–19.8, H. 22.66–22.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20
Note: 8 further specimens of same type from period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.4 and 6.8 cm.

13. Disc with wide-set notches along edges and painted black grid on either side of the plane surfaces.
Diam. 3.9 cm. Colour: greybrown. No. So III A 1036.
FS. 2 IV 10.5–15.5/Ca 14.3–16.2, H. 23.83–23.73 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

14. Disc with irregular notches around the circumference.
Diam. 2.5 cm. Colour: lightbrown. No. So III A 1782.
FS. 2 V 19.5–3 I 0.5/Ca 10.5–19.5, H. 23.02–22.62 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

15. Disc with flatly incised crescents along the edges.
Diam. 5.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1074.
FS. 2 IV 17.0–19.5/Be 18.5-Ca 2.5, H. 23.32–22.97 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17
Note: 3 more discs with flat scalloped border from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter 3.5, 4.2 and 5.5 cm.

16. Disc with deeply impressed semicircles along the edges.
Diam. 4.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 618.
FS. 2 IV 12.0–14.0/Be 16.0–17.5, H. 24.30–24.00 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16
Note: One more disc of same type registered under So III A. Diameter 3.8 cm.

17. Plain disc.
Diam. 3.1 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1078.
FS. 2 IV 18.5–19.5/Cb 19.5-Cc 0.5, H. 22.92–22.42 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.17
Note: 18 more plain discs from Periods IV/V registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.2 and 7.3 cm.

18. Thick plain disc.
Diam. 2.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 817.
FS. 2 IV 16.0–19.5/Cb 2.3–2.7, H. 23.65–23.30 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

Note: 3 more thick discs from Period V registered in group So III A. Diameter between 3.05 and 3.7 cm.

19. Thick disc with a circle of punched holes on both sides.
Diam. 3.4 cm. Colour: light brown. No. So III A 1237.
FS. 2 IV 6.5/Be 16.1, H. 22.00 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

20. Mutilated disc with notches along the edges and crudely incised motifs, one on each side, consisting of 1) a house with tree and a cross-road in front, and 2) an indistinct scene (chariot with team?).
Diam. 5.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1000.
FS. 2 IV 13.5–15.0/Cb 11.0–11.5, H. 22.20–22.05 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18

21. Mutilated disc with crudely incised tree(?) on the one and a simple cross on the other side.
Diam. 4.8 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1783.
FS. 2 V 19.5–3 I 0.5/Ca 10.5–19.5, H. 23.02–22.62 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

22. Disc with crudely incised floral motifs one on each side.
Diam. 4.4 cm. Colour: light brown. No. So III A 890.
FS.2 V 10.5–17.25/Cc 11.0–16.0, H. 23.23–21.93 m (pit).
Kuṣāṇa. L.18–15

23. Disc with incised floral(?) motif consisting of zigzag-lines and dots.
Diam. 3.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 312.
FS.2 IV 18.0–19.5/Be 18.0-Ca 9.5, H. 25.00–24.70 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16/15

Period VI–VIII. Discs from Levels 15 to 1

24. Disc with sharply cut notches on edges.
Diam. 5.2 cm. Colour: dark brown. No. So III A 385.
FS. 2 III 19.0–2IV 7.0/Ca 4.5–6.5, H. 24.90–24.60 m.
Gupta. L.15
Note: 11 more discs of same type from Periods VI/VIII registered under So III A. Diameter between 3.1 and 5.5 cm.

25. Disc with carefully incised oblique notches around the edges.
Diam. 3.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 283.
FS. 2 V 0.5–5.0/Ca 14.3–16.2, H. 25.30–25.00 m.
Medieval. L.11
Note: 2 more discs registered under So III A. Diameter 3.5 and 5.2 cm.

26. Mutilated disc with sharply impressed shallow crescents on edges.
Diam. 6.2 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 603.
FS. 2 IV 0.5–3.5/Ca 14.0–16.0, H. 24.10–23.80 m.
Gupta. L.15
Note: 2 more discs with crescent-border registered under So III A. Diameter 4.0 and 5.0 cm.

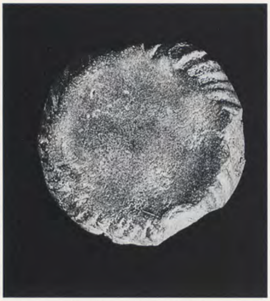
27. Disc with impressed chevrons on edges.
Diam. 4.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 871.
FS. 2 V 0.5–1.5/Cc 5.0–7.5, H. 23.30–23.00 m.
Gupta. L.15
Note: 2 more discs with same pattern registered under So III A. Diameter 3.3 and 3.8 cm.

28. Plain disc.
Diam. 2.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 391.
FS. 2 IV 15.0–17.8/Ca 5.0–9.5, H. 25.15–24.70 m.
Medieval. L.12
Note: 11 more plain discs from periods VI/VIII registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.5 and 6.8 cm.

29. Disc with two lines of punched holes crossing each other.
Diam. 3.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 443.
FS. 2 IV 1.5–3.5/Be 16.0–19.5, H. 25.90–24.70 m.
Gupta. L.14

30. Disc with geometrical pattern incised on both sides.
Diam. 4.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 566.
FS. 2 V 6.0–14.5/Cb 10.5–12.5, H. 25.65–25.25 m.
Medieval. L.10

31. Disc with oblique notches on edges and incised floral (or stylized sun) motifs on either side.
Diam. 4.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 290.
FS. 2 V 11.0–15.0/Ca 7.7–9.5, H. 25.67–25.27 m.
Medieval. L.9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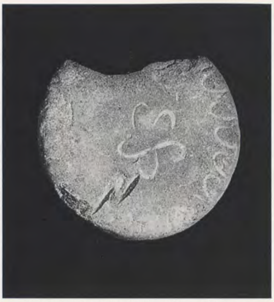
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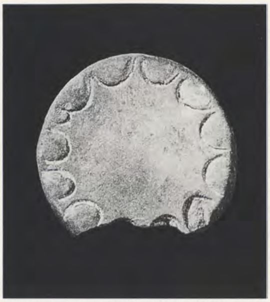
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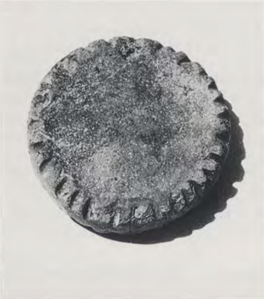
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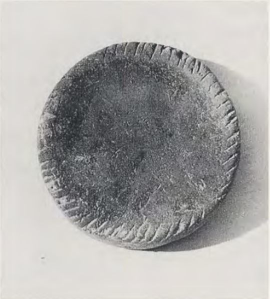
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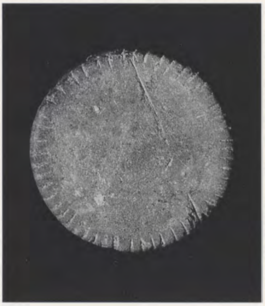
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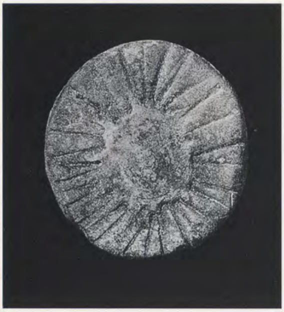
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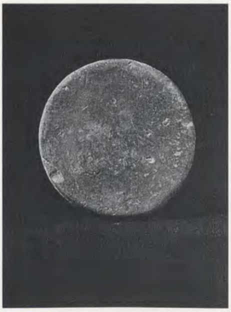
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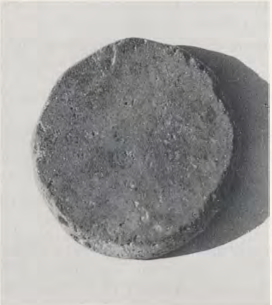
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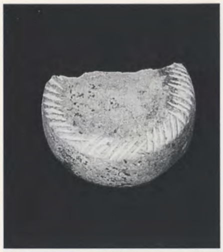
Terracotta Discs. Period I–III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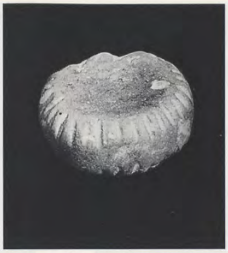
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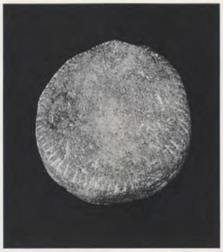
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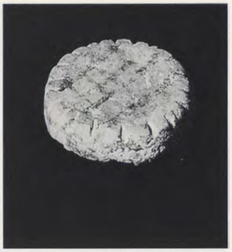
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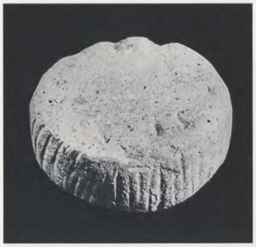
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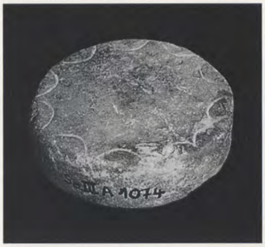
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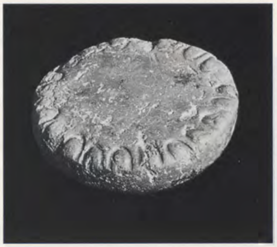
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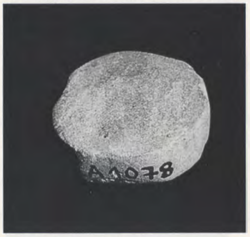

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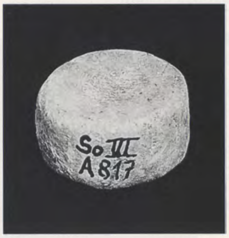

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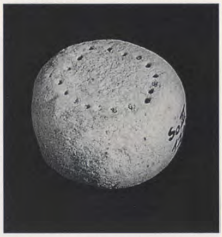

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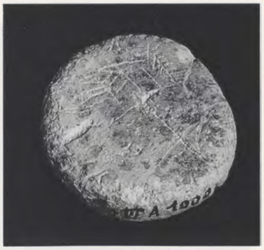

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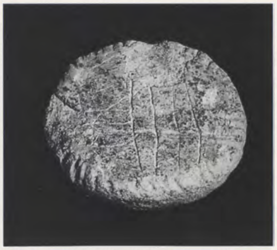
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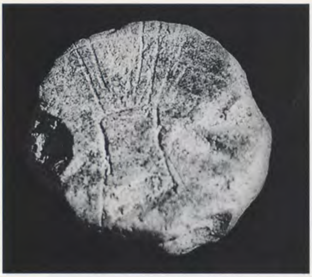
Terracotta Discs. Period IV–V



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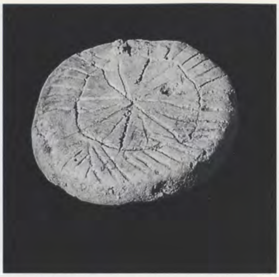

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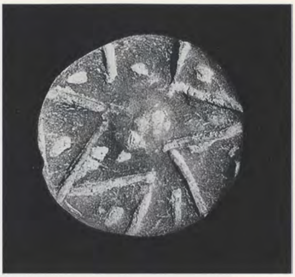

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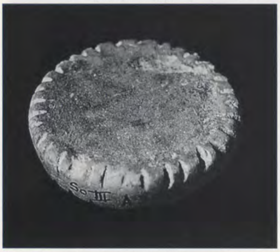

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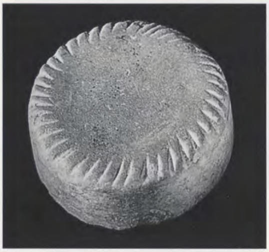

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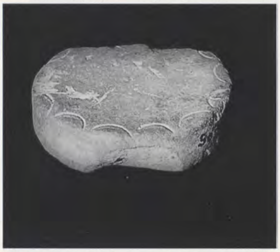

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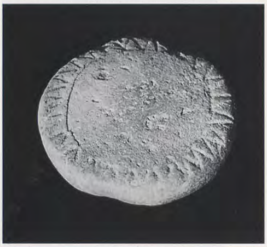

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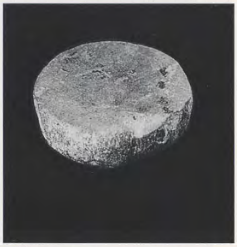

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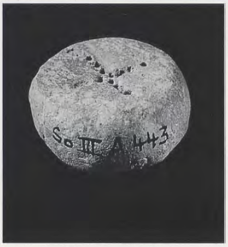

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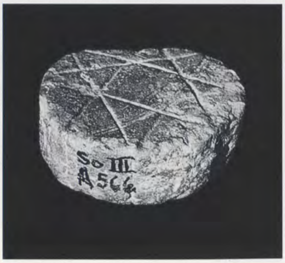

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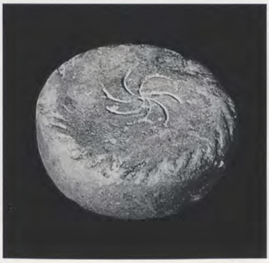


31

Terracotta Discs. Period IV–V, VI–VII

Spindle-whorls

In all 321 terracotta spindle-whorls of different shapes have been found in the levels of Periods II to VIII. Half of them comes from Period V, i.e. the Kuṣāṇa levels. The earliest whorls at Sonkh belong to the time of the Mauryas, the latest to the Jāṭs.
These objects, often identified as beads in Indian publications, can be divided in three groups

A. The vase shaped type with prominent collar and circular, elongated or truncated body;
B. The arecanut shaped type of hard lathe-made structure;
C. The rare types of different design, like spheroid, pear shaped, etc.

In view of the large number of such whorls one is inclined to classify them according to sub-shapes and to follow up the first appearance and, possibly, the re-appearance of a special shape in the succeeding periods. But one has to be aware of the fact that not one whorl is of exactly the same shape as the other. Therefore they can be classified only tentatively. It is to prefer to present the whorls according to their appearance within the respective periods. For this purpose one typical specimen of each variety found in the levels of the Periods II to IV, V, and VI to VIII has been selected and depicted here, amounting to altogether 54 specimens. The bulk of the remaining undamaged whorls has been allotted to the one or the other of these specimens in footnotes.

Period II–IV. Spindle-whorls from Levels 34 to 23

1. Spheroid-shaped; rough perforation.
Ø 2.6 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1970.
FS. 3 I 10.8–11.9/Ca 16.3–17.5, H. 14.20–13.70 m.
From a well. Maurya. L.34

2. Vase-shaped; squattish; overhanging rim; flat base.
Ø 2.2 cm. H. 1.2 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1802.
FS. 3 II 4.7–8.3/Ca 15.0–18.3, H. 16.05–15.75 m.
Maurya. L.34/33

3. Vase-shaped; circular; constricted neck; slightly overhanging round collar.
Ø 1.7 cm. H. 1.57 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1797.
FS. 3 II 4.8–8.3/Ca 14.5–18.2, H. 16.05–15.75 m.
Maurya. L.34/33

4. Vase-shaped; irregularly flaring sides rounded in the lower part; constricted neck; broad flat rim.
Ø 3.3 cm. H. 2.3 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3055.
FS. 2 IV 4.0/Be 19.0, H. 17.30 m. Maurya. L.33

5. Vase-shaped; (squattish) circular; constricted neck; broad flat rim.
Ø 3.36 cm. H. 2.13 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1767.
FS. 3 II 4.7–8.3/Ca 15.75–18.0, H. 16.30–16.00 m.
Maurya. L.33

6. Arecanut-shaped; flat circular depression on top; Conically flaring sides.
Ø 2.45 cm. H. 1.7 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1566.
FS. 3 I 18.0–20.0/Ca 15.8–19.5, H. 17.47–17.07 m.
Late Śuṅga C.P., L.29

7. Arecanut-shaped; deep circular depression on top; grooves around shoulders.
Ø 2.8 cm. H. 2.6 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1405.
FS. 3 I 12.0–14.0/Ca 14.2–17.0, H. 18.19–17.84 m.
Early Mitra. L.28/27

8. Arecanut-shaped; common type; large circular depression on top; grooves around shoulder and body.
Ø 2.35 cm. H. 1.6 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1379.
FS. 3 II 5.3–8.8/Ca 14.0–17.0, H. 18.85–18.55 m.
Mitra. L.26
Note: 19 further specimens of same type from periods III/IV registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.2 and 3.2 cm, the bulk 2.4 cm. Height between 1.6 and 2.4 cm.

9. Arecanut-shaped; truncated top; flat base.
Ø 2.5 cm. H. 1.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1365.
FS. 3 II 0.0–5.0/Ca 16.5–19.5, H. 18.85–18.55 m.
Mitra. L.26

10. Arecanut-shaped; flat depression on top. Grooves around shoulder and body; one prominent groove in lower part.
Ø 2.3 cm. H. 1.8 cm. Grey. No. So III A 1793.
FS. 3 I 6.0–7.5/Ca 7.0–10.3, H. 19.90–19.50 m.
Mitra. L.25
Note: One more specimen registered under So III A 1821.

11. Arecanut-shaped; large depression on top marked with concentric circles; body damaged but presumably grooved.
Ø 2.3 cm. H. 1.5 cm. Grey. No. So III A 1773.
FS. 3 I 6.0–9.4/Ca 7.0–10.3, H. 19.90–19.50 m.
Mitra. L.25

12. Arecanut-shaped; narrow deep depression on top; one prominent groove around shoulder.
Ø 2.45 cm. H. 1.5 cm. Light brown. No. So III A 1738.
FS. 3 I 3.0–6.4/Ca 5.5–10.0, H. 20.14–19.90 m.
Late Mitra. L.25/24

13. Arecanut-shaped; large shallow depression on top; less tapering middle part of body; grooved around shoulder and body.
Ø 2.4 cm. H. 1.9 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1941.
FS. 3 I 1.4–4.5/Ca 11.5–14.5, H. 20.10–19.70 m.
Late Mitra. L.25/24

14. Vase-shaped; circular; incurved rounded collar; roughly rounded base.
Ø 2.1 cm. H. 1.85 cm. Red slipped. No. So III A 1079.
FS. 3 I 5.8–9.0/Ca 13.0–19.5, H. 20.05–19.75 m.
Late Mitra. L.25/24
Note: One more piece of same type registered under So III A 1988. Diameter 1.8 cm.

15. Arecanut-shaped; large depression on top with framing groove on edge; thrown-up perforation.
Ø 2.5 cm. H. 2.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2079.
FS. 3 I 3.0–5.4/Ca 19.8-Cb 1.6, H. 20.75–20.40 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23

16. Arecanut-shaped; narrow, deep depression on top; chamfered shoulder.
Ø 2.33 cm. H. 1.85 cm. Grey. No. So III A 1714.
FS. 2 V 15.5–16.5/Ca 16.0–18.0, H. 20.90–20.60 m.
Late Kṣatrapa. L.23/22

17. Vase-shaped; elongated rounded body; slightly angular collar.
Ø 2.35 cm. H. 2.18 cm. Red. No. So III A 1442.
FS. 2 IV 17.0–19.4/Cc 2.5–5.2, H. 20.30–20.10 m.
Late Kṣatrapa. L.22

Period V. Spindle-whorls from Levels 22 to 15

18. Vase-shaped; squattish; rounded collar; extremely small.
Ø 1.77 cm. H. 1.2 cm. Grey. No. So III A 1461.
FS. 2 IV 2.0–6.0/Cb 14.0–19.5, H. 21.52–21.37 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

19. Vase-shaped; low; tapering squattish body; massively overhanging rounded rim.
Ø 1.6 cm. H. 0.8 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 773.
FS. 2 V 0.5–18.5/Ca 17.4–19.5, H. 22.10–21.80 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20

20. Vase-shaped; low; rounded body; bevelled broad rim.
Ø 1.8 cm. H. 1.1 cm. Red, black-slipped. No. So III A 2055.
FS. 2 IV 19.5–2 V 0.5/Ca 10.5–18.0, H. 22.56–22.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19

21. Vase-shaped; short truncated cone; broad bevelled rim.
Ø 1.9 cm. H. 1.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1222.
FS. 2 IV 12.3–14.8/Be 19.5-Ca 3.0, H. 22.50–22.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19
Note: Further 3 specimens of same type from period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 1.9 and 2.8 cm.

22. Vase-shaped; elongated body; rounded collar.
Ø 2.9 cm. H. 2.9 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1240.
FS. 3 I 2.3–6.0/Ca 16.0–17.7, H. 22.30–22.00 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19
Note: One more specimen of same type registered under So III A 601.

23. Vase-shaped; slightly flaring body; rounded collar with groove on inner edge.
Ø 2.3 cm. H. 2.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 1273.
FS. 2 IV o.5–5.2/Ca 12.9–16.0, H. 22.84–22.49 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19/18
Note: Further 4 specimens from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 1.7 and 2.3 cm.

24. Vase-shaped; circular; rounded collar.
Ø 2.5 cm. H. 2.2 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1842.
FS. 3 I 0.5–3.5/Ca 19.5-Cb 0.5, H. 22.70–22.50 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18
Note: 6 more specimens of same type from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 1.7 and 3.2 cm.

25. Vase-shaped; low rounded body; thick round collar.
Ø 1.8 cm. H. 1.4 cm. Light brown. No. So III A 992.
FS. 2 V 18.75–20.0/Cb 10.5–13.0, H. 22.50–22.20 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18

26. Vase-shaped; circular; thick rounded collar.
Ø 2.0 cm. H. 2.5 cm. Brown by fire. No. So III A 1051.
FS. 2 IV 5.0–6.5/Cb 4.5–9.5, H. 23.53–23.28 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

27. Vase-shaped; elongated body; high rounded collar.
Ø 2.5 cm. H. 2.5 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 762.
FS. 2 V 0.5–4.0/Ca 10.5–13.8, H. 23.15–22.85 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

28. Vase-shaped; circular; constricted neck with sharp grooves around shoulder; narrow collar.
Ø 2.8 cm. H. 2.4 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 969.
FS. 2 IV 6.0–7.75/Cb 10.5–13.5, H. 23.67–23.27 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

29. Arecanut-shaped; large flat depression on top; grooves around shoulder and body.
Ø 2.25 cm. H. 1.9 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1715.
FS. 2 V 2.5–4.3/Ca 5.0–6.4, H. 21.28–21.03 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21
Note: Further 12 specimens of same type from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.1 and 3.5 cm.

30. Arecanut-shaped; medium but sharp concave depression on top; body tapering off to the concave bottom; no grooves.
Ø 2.6 cm. H. 2.0 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 857.
FS. 2 V 0.5–3.0/Ca 5.0–9.5, H. 21.60–21.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21
Note: 11 more specimens of same type registered under So III A. Diameter between 1.7 and 3.2 cm.

31. Arecanut-shaped; medium depression; two deep grooves on shoulder.
Ø 2.7 cm. H. 2.2 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1602.
FS. 2 V 10.5–14.5/Ca 10.5–12.3, H. 21.10–20.85 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21
Note: Further 2 specimens with two grooves on shoulder from same period registered under So III A 476; 928. Diameter 2.5 and 2.8 cm.

32. Arecanut-shaped; narrow deep depression on top: slight bend on shoulder.
Ø 2.4 cm. H. 2.2 cm. Brown, blackened. No. So III A 1223.
FS. 2 IV 10.5–12.2/Be 15.5-Ca 3.0, H. 22.75–22.60 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19/18
Note: Further 4 specimens of same type registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.1 and 2.6 cm.

33. Arecanut-shaped; large flat depression on top with deep grooves on edge; slightly squattish body, irregularly grooved.
Ø 2.4 cm. H. 1.8 cm. Colour: black. No. So III A 1059.
FS. 2 IV 13.5–19.5/Ca 7.0–9.5, H. 22.84–22.54 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L. 19/18
Note: 3 more whorls of same type registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.3 and 3.4 cm.

34. Arecanut-shaped; narrow depression on top; edging constriction around shoulder.
Ø 3.4 cm. Ht. 2.6 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1254.
FS. 2 V 0.5–9.5/Cc 0.5–0.6, H. 22.92–22.12 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16
Note: 3 more specimens registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.7 and 3.3 cm.

35. Arecanut-shaped; narrow depression on top; rounded body completely grooved.
Ø 2.5 cm. H. 2.1 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1827.
FS. 2 V 13.0–19.5/Ca 19.5-Cb 0.5, H. 22.70–22.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18

36. Arecanut-shaped; common type; medium but deep depression on top.
Ø 2.5 cm. H. 1.9 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2053.
FS. 2 IV 9.5–10.5/Ca 0.5–4.0, H. 23.19–22.80 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17
Note: 29 more specimens with and without grooves around body from Period V registered under So III A. Diam. between 2.1 and 3.7 cm.

37. Arecanut-shaped; medium depression on top; body with slight bend and prominent groove on shoulder.
Ø 3.2 cm. H. 2.1 cm. Grey, black stripes. No. So III A 903.
FS. 2 V 7.0–9.5/Ca 2.0–4.5, H. 22.30–22.00 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19

Note: Further 8 specimens of same type from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.3 and 3.5 cm.

38. Arecanut-shaped; large shallow depression on top; regular concentric grooves in field of depression and all around body.
Ø 3.4 cm. H. 2.2 cm. Colour: black. No. So III A 1055.
FS. 2 IV 0.5–4.0/Ca 7.0–8.0, H. 23.10–22.80 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18
Note: 11 more specimens of same type registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.5 and 3.2 cm.

39. Arecanut-shaped; narrow depression on top; chamfered neck.
Ø 3.1 cm. H. 2.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2083.
FS. 2 III 13.0–19.5/Cb 1.6–3.5, H. 22.90–22.60 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17
Note: Further 5 specimens with chamfered neck from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.3 and 3.5 cm.

40. Arecanut-shaped; common type; large depression on top; grooves all over the body.
Ø 2.3 cm. H. 1.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1107.
FS. 2 IV 10.5–14.0/Ca 5.4–8.0, H. 23.01–22.61 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18
Note: 25 more specimens of same type from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.2 and 3.6 cm.

41. Arecanut-shaped; large and deep depression on top; grooves all around the body.
Ø 2.5 cm. H. 1.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2035.
FS. 2 III 19.2–2 IV 0.5/Ca 10.5–15.0, H. 23.20–22.95 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19/18
Note: 9 further specimens of same type from Period V registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.0 and 3.3 cm.

42. Arecanut-shaped; medium but flat depression on top; deep groove around neck.
Ø 3.0 cm. H. 2.0 cm. Colour: black. No. So III A 1068.
FS. 2 IV 10.5–11.6/Cb 9.5–10.5, H. 23.65–23.05 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16
Note: One more specimen with neck-groove registered under So III A 644. Diameter 2.7 cm, Ht. 1.8 cm.

Periods VI–VIII. Spindle-whorls from Levels 15 to 1

43. Arecanut-shaped; medium depression on top; flat grooves around body.
Ø 2.5 cm. H. 2.0 cm. Colour: black. No. So III A 805.
FS. 0.5–6.5/Cc 5.0–7.0, H. 23.60–23.30 m. Gupta. L.15/14
Note: 7 further specimens of same type from Period VI registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.3 and 3.5 cm.

44. Arecanut-shaped; narrow depression on top; doubly chamfered neck; grooves around body.
Ø 3.0 cm. H. 2.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 571.
FS. 2 IV 0.5–2.3/Ca 16.0–19.5, H. 24.45–24.15 m. Gupta. L.15
Note: 3 further specimens registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.7 and 3.5 cm.

45. Arecanut-shaped; large depression on top; chamfered neck; prominent groove below shoulder.
Ø 3.6 cm. H. 2.2 cm. Colour: light brown. No. So III A 610.
FS. 2 V 0.5–9.5/Cb 4.0–6.0, H. 24.35–24.05 m. Gupta. L.14
Note: 9 more specimens of same type from Period VI registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.3 and 4.0 cm.

46. Arecanut-shaped; narrow depression on top; slightly chamfered neck; sharp prominent groove on shoulder.
Ø 2.9 cm. H. 2.0 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 546.
FS. 2 IV 10.5–13.5/Be 19.5-Ca 1.0, H. 25.50–25.00 m.
Gupta. L.15
Note: 3 more specimen of same type from Periods VI/VII registered under So III A. Diameter between 2.8 and 3.0 cm

47. Arecanut-shaped; large and flat depression on top with two encircling grooves on edge; body completely grooved.
Ø 3.0 cm. Colour: black. No. So III A 556.
FS. 2 IV 6.0–9.5/Ca 10.5–14.5. H. 24.80–24.40 m.
Gupta. L.15/14
Note: 2 more specimens of same type from Period VI registered under So III A 573; 612. Diameter 2.5 and 2.7 cm.

48. Pear-shaped; concave base.
Ø 2.9 cm. H. 3.6 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 941.
FS. 2 V 0.5–2.0/Cb 19.5-Cc 0.5, H. 24.00–23.70 m.
Gupta. L.15
Note: One more pear-shaped specimen from Period VII registered under So III A 425. Diameter 2.0 cm, Ht. 1.8 cm (damaged).

49. Irregularly spherical; crudely modelled.
Ø 2.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 502.
FS. 2 V 6.4–9.5/Ca 6.5–9.5, H. 24.60–23.75 m.
Gupta. L.15/14

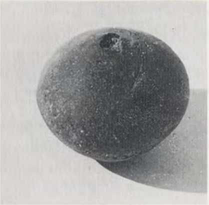
50. Vase-shaped; circular; rounded collar.
Ø 3.0 cm. H. 2.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 870.
FS. 2 III 19.5–2 IV 0.5/Cb 8.5–12.0, H. 24.30–24.00 m.
Gupta. L.15
Note: One more specimen under So III A 396. Diameter 2.5 cm.

51. Truncated vase-shaped; semicircularly rounded collar mildly under-cut at the neck.
Ø 2.1 cm. H. 1.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 457.
FS. 2 III 19.5–2 IV 0.5/Ca 10.5–19.5,H. 26.50–26.20 m.
Late Medieval. L.8/7

52. Vase-shaped; circular; flattened high collar.
Ø 2.3 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 188.
FS. 2 IV 14.5–19.5/Ca 3.0–6.0, H. 26.20–25.80 m.
Jāṭ. L.8/6

53. Vase-shaped; squattish with thick collar and bevelled top.
Ø 2.0 cm. H. 1.2 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 204.
FS. 2 IV 18.0–19.5/Ca 4.0–6.0, H. 26.30–26.00 m.
Jāṭ. L.6

54. Vase-shaped; elongated body; rounded collar.
Ø 3.1 cm. H. 2.7 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 101.
FS. 2 IV 4.0–6.0/Cb 0.5–5.0, H. 27.40 m. ca. L.5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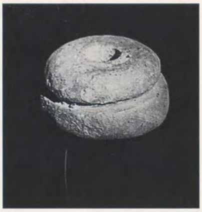
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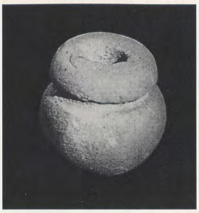
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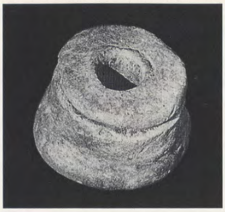
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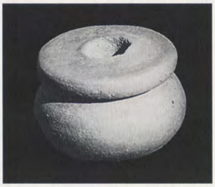
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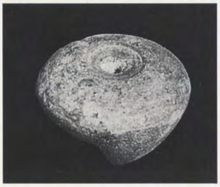
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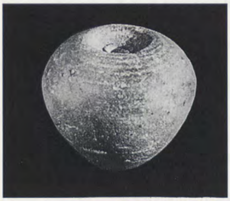
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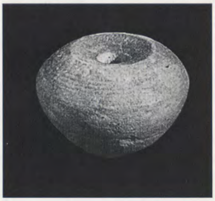
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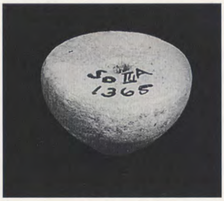
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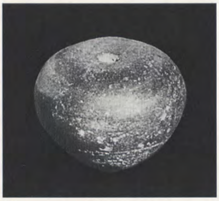
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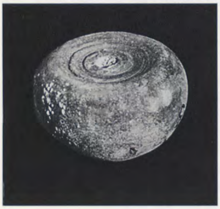
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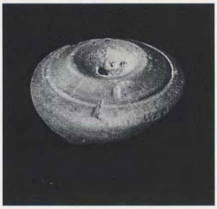
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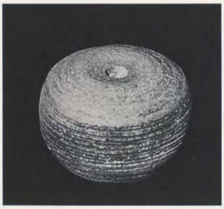
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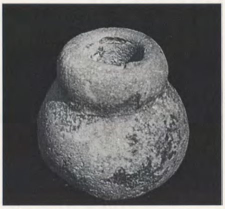
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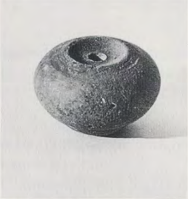
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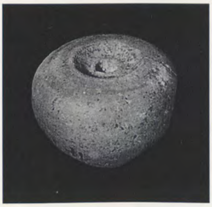
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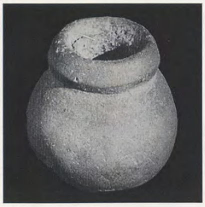
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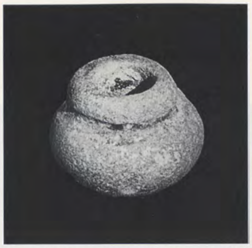
Terracotta Spindle-whorls. Period II, III–IV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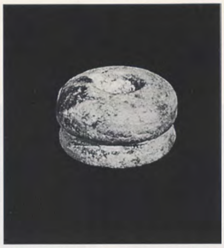
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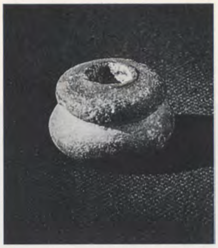
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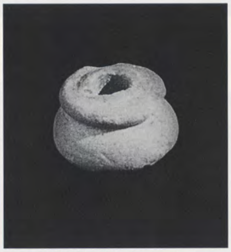
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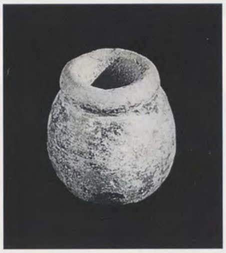
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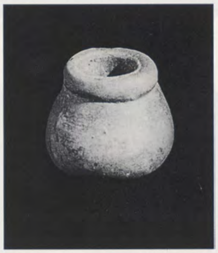
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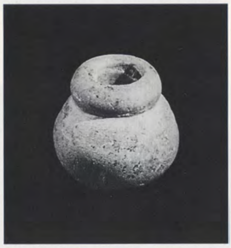
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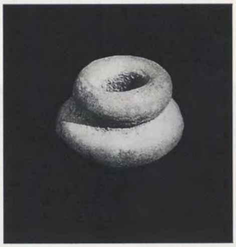
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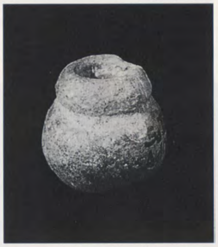
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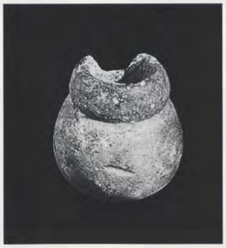
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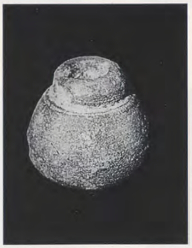
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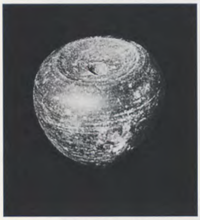
Terracotta Spindle-whorls. Period V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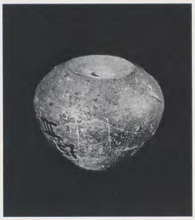
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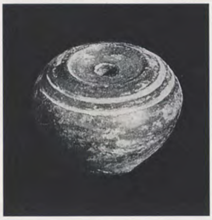
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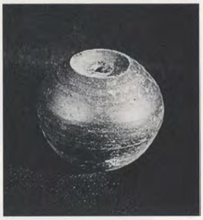
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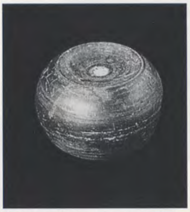
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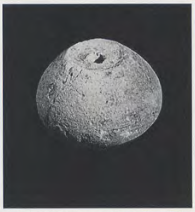
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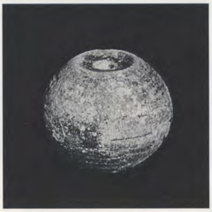
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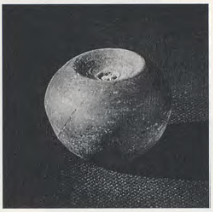
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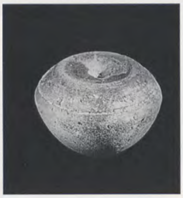
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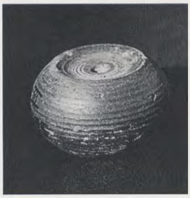
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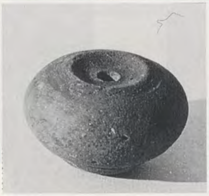
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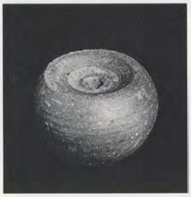
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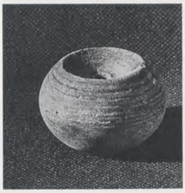
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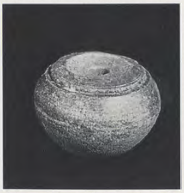
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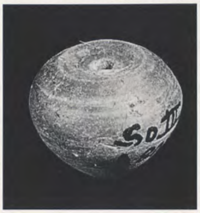
Terracotta Spindle-whorls. Period V



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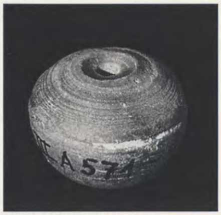

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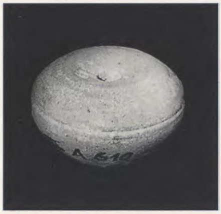

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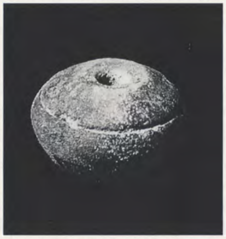

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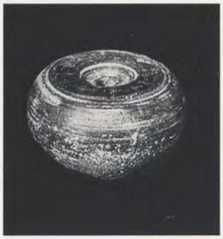

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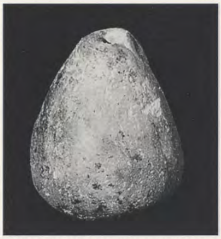

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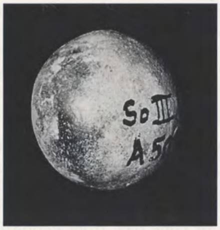

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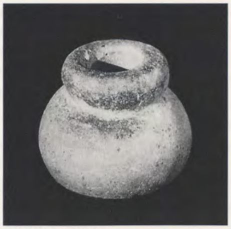

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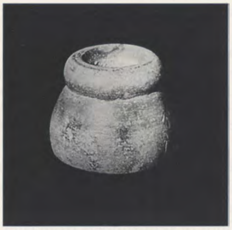

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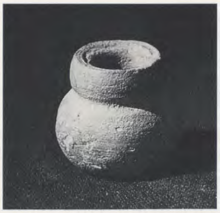

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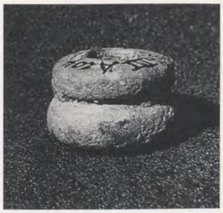

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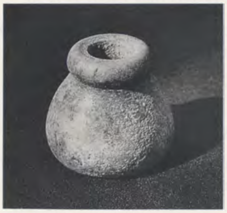

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Terracotta Spindle-whorls. Period VI–VII

Skin-rubbers

Terracotta skin-rubbers have been found in the levels of the Periods II to V, proving that they were in use at least from the Mauryas to the Kuṣāṇas. The rubbers consist, as a rule, of a rectangular or round piece of clay studded with stones or roughened by grooves or holes on one of the sides. All pieces are well fired. In all 86 skin-rubbers or fragments of such have been found in the excavation. They differ in shape and fabric from period to period and can, therefore, be classified as follows.

A. In Period II three types of skin-rubbers appear:
  a) oblong with superficially studded chips of sharp and angular stones (no. 1);
  b) rectangular with deeply studded small chips of stones (no. 2);
  c) rectangular or oval, studded with few chips of stones only and roughened by irregular incisions (nos. 3–4);
B. In Periods III/IV seven types can be distinguished:
  a) rectangular or square, similar A.b);
  b) rectangular with deeply studded small chips of stones and impressed notches at the long sides for handling the rubber (no. 7)
  c) rectangular with closely studded pebbles (no. 8);
  d) like c) but with notches at the long sides (no. 9);
  e) rectangular and similar to c) but with honeycombed surface (no. 10);
  f) like e) but with notches for handling the object (no. 11);
  g) round with punctured or criss-cross incised surface (no. 12–13);
C. In Period V five specimens can be traced:
  a) continuation of type B.b);
  b) rectangular or irregularly shaped with honeycombed surface (no. 16);
  c) round with closely studded pebbles (most common type, no. 17);
  d) round with honeycombed surface (no. 18);
  e) singular pieces with deeply grooved lines (nos. 19–21).

Of all the specimens, the most characteristic are the oblong rubbers with superficially studded sharp and angular stones (A.a) which do not appear any longer after Level 26, and the round varieties which seem to be a special Kuṣāṇa product. The pebble-studded and densely porous rubbers firstly appear in the Mitra levels and change into the round shape in the Kuṣāṇa period. There are no finds of skin-rubbers from later periods.

Period II. Skin-rubbers from Levels 34 to 30

1. Fragment of an oblong rubber with superficially studded chips of sharp and angular stones.
10.7 × 6.1 × 5.2 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 3688.
FS. 2 IV 7.1/Cc 2.23, H. 15.38 m. Maurya. L.34/33
Note: 6 more fragments of same type from Period II registered under So III A 2178; 2664; 3188; 3544; 3552; 3684.

2. Rectangular skin-rubber with slightly incurved long sides. Deeply studded small chips of stone irregularly spread over the whole surface.
12.9 × 8.2 × 2.2 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 3023.
FS. 2 IV 3.6–10.15/Be 13.6–17.3, H. 18.38–18.22 m.
Late Maurya/Early Śuṅga C.P., L.31
Note: 2 more fragments of same type registered under So III A 3646; 3687.

3. Rectangular skin-rubber with few chips of stone studded in the surface roughened by irregular incisions.
8.4 × 5.5 × 1.5 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 2465.
FS. 3 I 6.0–7.0/Ca 11.2–14.5, H. 16.92–16.80 m.
Late Maurya/Early Śuṅga C.P., L.31/30
Note: One more specimen registered as So III A 3078.

4. Oval skin-rubber with few chips of stone and roughened surface.
L.8.5 cm. B.4.6 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 3430.
FS.2 IV 13.5/Cc 0.5, H. 16.30 m. Late Maurya. L.32/31

Period III–IV. Skin-rubbers from Levels 28 to 24

5. Rectangular rubber with chips of stones studded in the surface. Crudely made.
9.5 × 6.5 × 2.4 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 2968.
FS. 2 IV 3.2–4.6/Be 13.5–16.0, H. 19.44–19.28 m.
Early Mitra. L.28/27

6. Square rubber with densely studded chips of small stones in the surface.
8.4 × 7.5 × 2.2 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 3024.
FS.2 V 17.2–3 I 0.5/Cb 7.0–9.5, H. 18.35–18.15 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: Further 5 specimens of same type from Periods III/IV registered under So III A 2550; 2987; 3675; 3683; 3685.

7. Rectangular skin-rubber with impressed notches in the long sides for handling the object.
9.4 × 7.5 × 2.0 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 2931.
FS.3 I 0.0–2.2/Ca 19.3-Cb 0.7, H. 18.88–18.78 m. Mitra. L.26
Note: 12 more specimens of same type from Periods III/IV registered under So III A 1536; 1965; 1968; 2349; 2350; 2363; 2629; 2920; 2921; 3102; 3470; 3653.

8. Rectangular skin-rubber with slightly incurved long sides studded closely with pebbles.
9.1 × 7.1 × 1.9 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 3017.
FS. 3 I 0.5–2.9/Cb 4.0–4.6, H. 18.05–17.90 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: 4 more specimens of same type from Periods III/IV registered under So III A 2318; 2792; 2795; 3610.

9. Rectangular skin-rubber with impressed notches in the long sides for handling the piece. Studded closely with pebbles.
9.3 × 7.8 × 1.7 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 3075.
FS.2 V 10.5–14.5/Cb 0.9–1.5, H. 18.45–18.25 m. Mitra. L.27/26
Note: 2 more rubbers of same type from Period III registered under So III A 2174; 2335.

10. Rectangular rubber with honeycombed surface without pebbles.
9.0 × 6.9 × 1.6 cm. Dull red. No. So III A 3431.
FS. 2 V 7.0–9.5/Cc 0.5–1.6, H. 19.15–18.85 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: 2 more specimens of same type from Period III/IV registered under So III A 2068; 3432.

11. Rectangular rubber with impressed notches for handling in the long sides. Honeycombed surface without pebbles.
9.5 × 8.0 × 1.5 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 2043.
FS. 3 I 2.0/Ca 18.3, H. 18.70 m. From well. Mitra. L.26
Note: Further 2 specimens from Period III registered under So III A 2193; 3124.

12. Round, crudely made skin-rubber with closely punctured holes on the one and one circle of holes around the edge on the other side.

Ø 7.7 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2310.
FS. 2 V 11.0–16.7/Ca 15.4–19.5, H. 19.60–19.40 m.
Late Mitra/Early Kṣatrapa. L.25/24

13. Round, crudely made skin-rubber with incised criss-cross pattern and a constricting line around and below edge.
Ø 7.8 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 3061.
FS.2 V 9.9/Cb 7.2, H. 18.90 m. Late Mitra. L.25

Period V. Skin-rubbers from Levels 21 to 17

14. Rectangular rubber similar to no.7 with impressed notches in the long sides for handling the piece.
10.3 × 6.8 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 2095.
FS. 3 I 2.5/Cb 9.5, H. 19.37 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19
Note: One more specimen registered under So III A 2435.

15. Rectangular skin-rubber with honeycombed surface on one side.
9.8 × 6.8 × 2.2 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 2057.
FS. 2 III 19.8–2 IV 1.5/Be 19.3-Ca 0.5, H. 22.83–22.33 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19
Note: One more specimen registered under So III A 2816.

16. Irregularly oblong skin-rubber with honeycombed surface on one side.
L. 10.9 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 2040.
FS. 2 IV 9.5–10.5/Be 15.5–19.5, H. 23.49–23.19 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.17

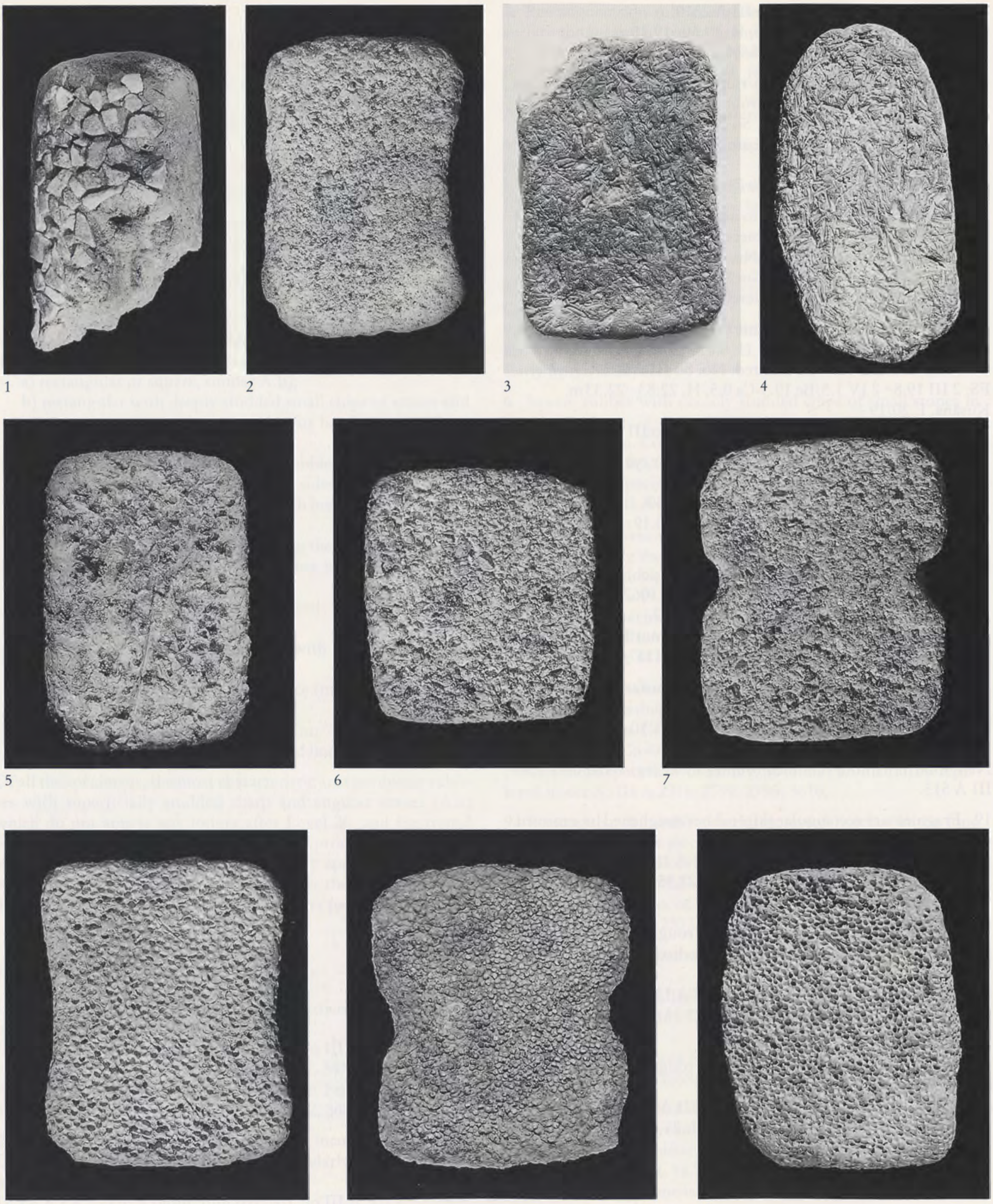
17. Round skin-rubber studded closely with pebbles.
Ø 9.5 cm. Colour: light brown. No. So III A 1062.
FS. 2 V 15.7/Cb 0.4, H. 23.25 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17
Note: 7 more round rubbers with pebbles from Period V registered under So III A 579; 703; 736; 826; 925; 1157; 1176.

18. Round skin-rubber with honeycombed surface.
Ø 9.5 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 2096.
FS. 2 V 12.0–13.5/Cb 10.5–19.5, H. 21.40–21.10 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20
Note: One more honeycombed round rubber registered under So III A 515.

19. Fragmentary rectangular skin-rubber roughened by grooved parallel lines.
8.8 × 6.0 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 1609.
FS. 2 IV 5.0–6.5/Ca 2.8–4.5, H. 23.06–22.55 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19/18

20. Mutilated rectangular skin-rubber roughened by grooved parallel lines on the one and 16 irregularly distributed holes on the other side.
8.7 × 6.0 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 1366.
FS. 2 V 7.5–9.5/Ca 1.0–6.5, H. 21.65–21.35 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

21. Mutilated rectangular skin-rubber roughened by grooved criss-cross lines.
6.6 × 4.7 × 1.8 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1351.
FS. 3 I 1.5/Ca 17.0, H. 21.32 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21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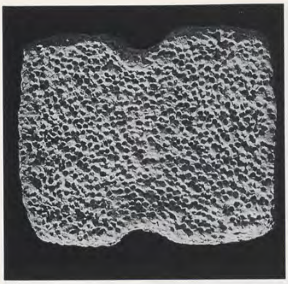
Terracotta Skin-rubbers. Period II (1–4), Period III–IV (5–10)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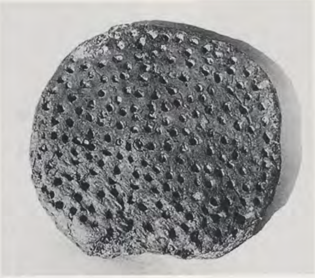
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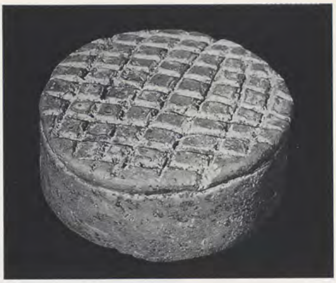
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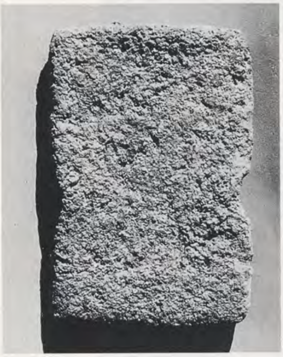
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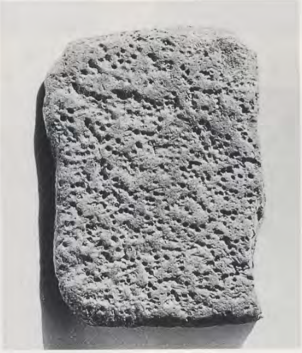
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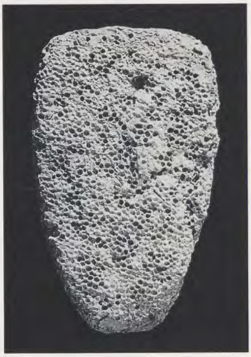
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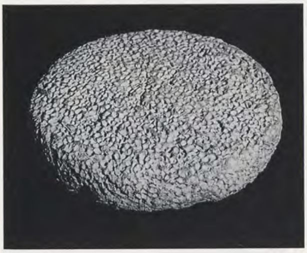
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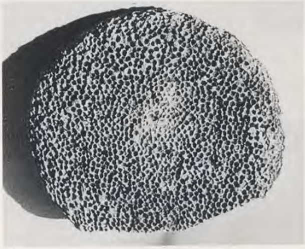
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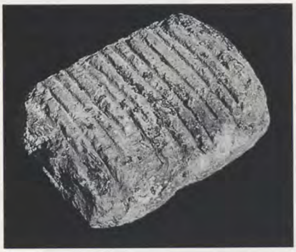
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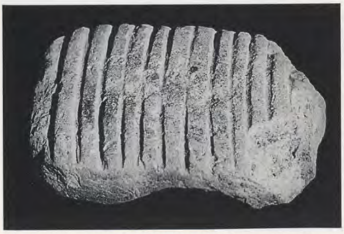
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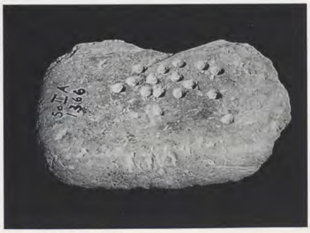

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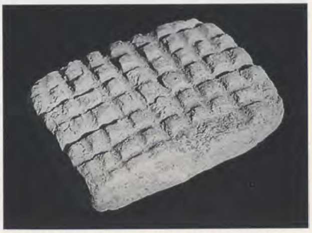
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Terracotta Skin-rubbers. Period III–IV (11–12), Period V (14–21)

Dabbers

In all 82 complete and fragmentary terracotta dabbers have been recovered in the excavation. Their occurrence begins with the Mitras (L.26) and ends in the early medieval times (L.12). The shapes are very divergent and it is nearly impossible to categorize them. They will, therefore, be described and depicted by means of 22 dabbers selected according to their occurrence in the successive levels.

Period III–IV. Dabbers from Levels 26 to 22

1. Fragment of a dabber with mildly chamfered neck and knobbed handle. Scratches on fracture-line perhaps remains of akṣaras.
Ø 7.3 cm. H. 7.8 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3189.
FS. 2 V 19.0–3 I 2.0/Cb 10.5–12.0, H. 18.95–18.80 m.
Mitra. L.26

2. Dabber having flat base, constricted neck and knobbed handle. Scratches on body presumably remains of numbering, but not of inscription.
Ø 11.6 cm. H. 9.7 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 3117.
FS. 2 V 3.5/Cb 9.8, H. 19.10 m. Mitra. L.26/25
Note: One more specimen registered under So III A 3027.

3. Dabber with conical body and slightly curved base. Flattish handle. Vertical strokes incised around body (no inscription).
Ø 8.0 cm. H. 6.6 cm. Brown wash. No. So III A 2118.
FS. 3 I 0.0–2.3/Ca 19.9-Cb 2.6, H. 20.82–20.52 m.
Late Kṣatrapa. L.23/22

4. Small dabber with slim body, flat base, knobbed handle. Cross scratched on top.
Ø 4.8 cm. H. 5.6 cm. Brown wash. No. So III A 3162.
FS. 2 IV 10.9–15.2/Ca 6.5–9.5, H. 20.90–20.55 m.
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

Period V–VI. Dabbers from Levels 22 to 12

5. Dabber with conical body and flat base. Knobbed handle with slightly drooping edge.
Ht. 8.6 cm. Colour: red wash. No. So III A 1769.
FS. 2 V 2.1–3.5/Cb 11.9–15.3, H. 21.32–20.90 m.
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21
Note: One more specimen registered under So III A 1122.

6. Big bag-shaped dabber with rounded base, chamfered neck and knobbed handle.
Ø 15.3 cm. Ht.12.0 cm. Brown wash. No. So III A 2182.
FS. 2 V 6.5–8.0/Ca 17.7–19.5, H. 20.94–20.68 m.
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22
Note: One more specimen registered under So III A 486.

7. Dabber with rounded base, low body, high neck and knobbed handle.
Ht. 5.4 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1641.
FS. 3 I 4.0–5.5/Ca 10.5–15.0, H. 21.24–20.85 m.
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21

8. Dabber with high conical body, rounded base, constricted neck and flatly knobbed handle. Vertical strokes incised on body.
Ø 9.6 cm. Ht.8.0 cm. Colour: red. No. So III A 2123.
FS. 2 V 8.0–9.5/Ca 4.3–6.7, H. 21.17–20.87 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21
Note: 2 more dabbers of same type registered under So III A 942; 981.

9. Dabber shaped like a mushroom with rounded sides and knobbed handle with drooping edge.
Ht. 7.1 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 1948.
FS. 2 V 10.5–15.1/Cb 14.0–15.5, H. 21.65–21.30 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21
Note: 3 more pieces under So III A 1949; 2066; 3160. Ht.6.5/7.7 cm.

10. Dabber with elongated body, rounded base, small knobbed handle.
Ø 9.7 cm. H. 8.5 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 2073.
FS. 2 V 7.6–9.5/Ca 19.85-Cb 0.5, H. 22.17–21.82 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20

11. Dabber with low body, flattish knobbed handle and incised rosette on top.
Ø 6.0 cm. H. 6.5 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 896.
FS. 2 V 15.5–16.5/Cb 8.0–9.5, H. 22.20–21.90 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20
Note: One more specimen but without rosette registered under So III A 1905.

12. Mutilated dabber with rounded sides, constricted neck and voluminous knobbed handle of irregular shape.
Ø 6.2 cm. H. 6.2 cm. Brown wash. No. So III A 2697.
FS. 2 IV 6.4–8.1/Cb 3.8–4.2, H. 22.25–21.95 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19
Note: Further 2 specimens registered under So III A 1035; 2883.

13. Mushroom-shaped dabber with wide neck and knobbed handle covering the body.
Ø 7.5 cm. H. 6.5 cm. Red wash. No. So III A 2028.
FS. 2 IV 2.5–9.5/Cb 1.0–2.3, H. 23.26–22.80 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16

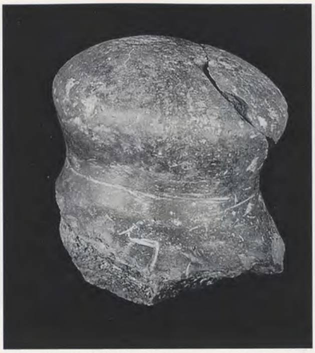
14. Big dabber with conical body, rounded base, constricted neck and thick knobbed handle with depression in the centre.
Ø 10.2 cm. H. 8.9 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1162.
FS. 2 IV 2.3/Ca 9.5, H. 23.10 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17
Note: One more specimen registered under So III A 1069.

15. Dabber with low conical body, constricted neck and overhanging knobbed handle. Deep hole in centre of knob for inserting a rod.
Ø 6.7 cm. H. 5.2 cm. Dull red. No. So III A 1015.
FS. 2 V 7.5–10.0/Ca 19.5-Cb 0.5, H. 23.62–23.22 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

16. Dabber with conical body, constricted neck and overhanging knobbed handle. Deep hole in centre of knob. Incised oblique strokes on the shoulder.
Ø 7.5 cm. H. 6.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 711.
FS. 2 IV 5.2–8.0/Be 16.7–19.5, H. 24.20–23.70 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16

17. Fragment of a dabber with low body and knobbed handle. Large deep hole in the centre of the knob.
Ø 7.3 cm. H. 5.5 cm. Dull red. No. So III A 913.
FS. 2 IV o.5–9.5/Cb 17.5–19.5, H. 23.40–23.15 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L. 17/16

18. Dabber with elongated body and narrow, thick knobbed handle. Deep hole in the centre of the knob.
Ø 7.0 cm. H. 6.6 cm. Brown wash. No. So III A 619.
FS. 2 IV 0.5–2.5/Ca 17.5–19.5, H. 24.10–23.80 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16/15



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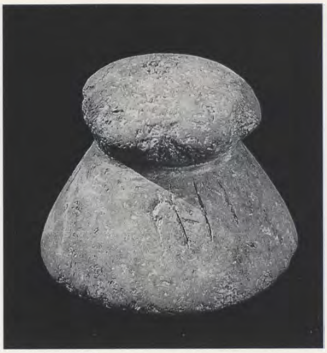

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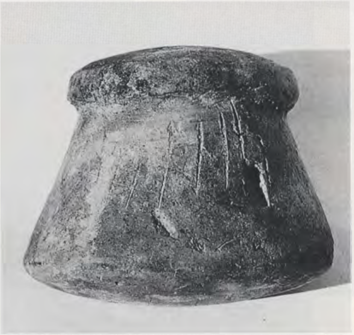

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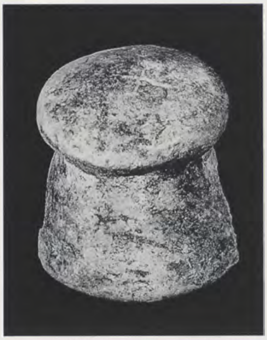

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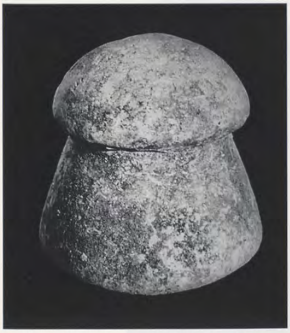

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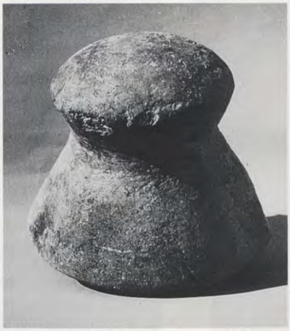

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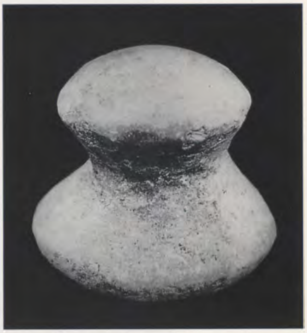

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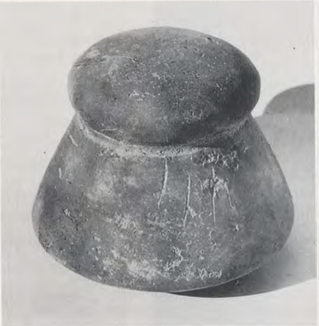
Terracotta Dabbers. Period III–IV (1–4), Period V–VI (5–6)



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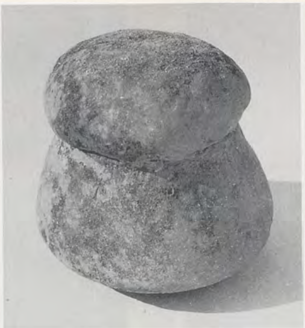

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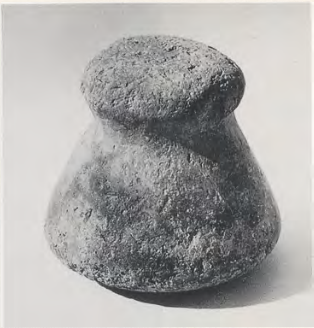

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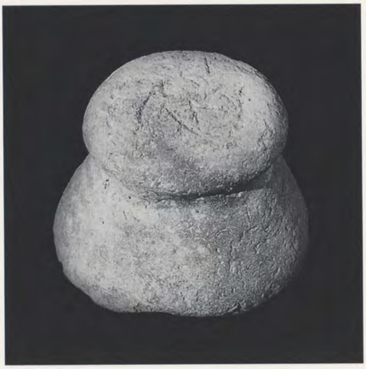

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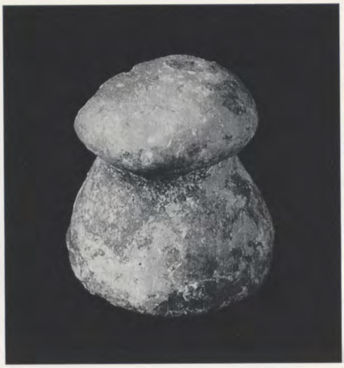

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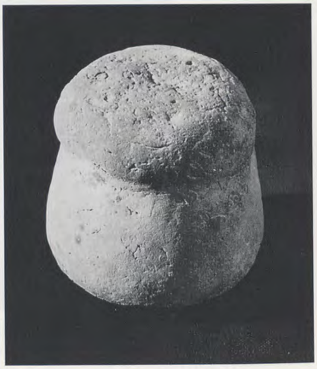

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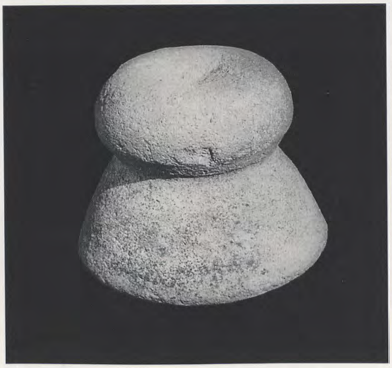

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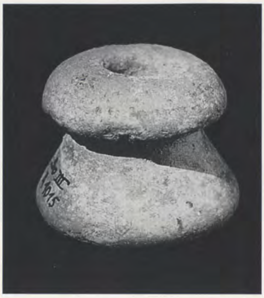
Terracotta Dabbers. Period V–VI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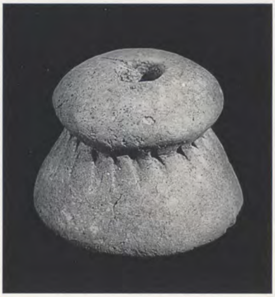
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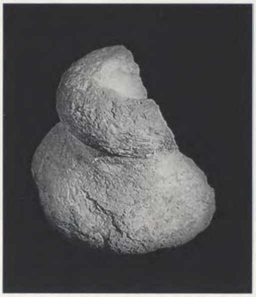
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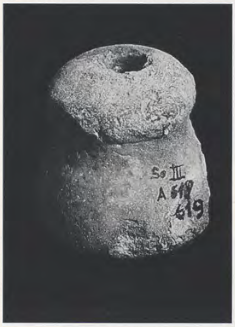
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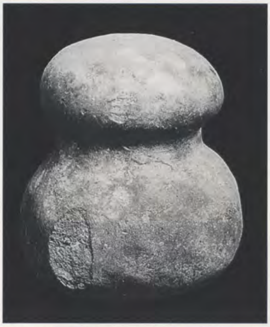
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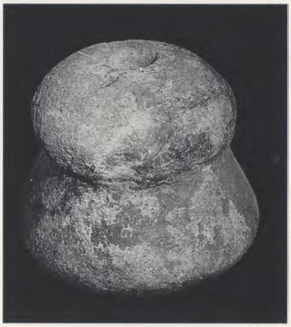
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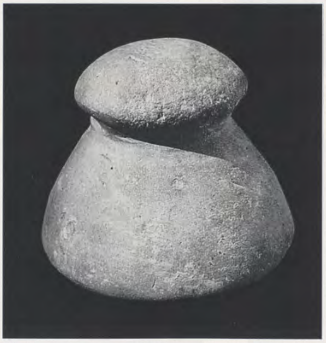
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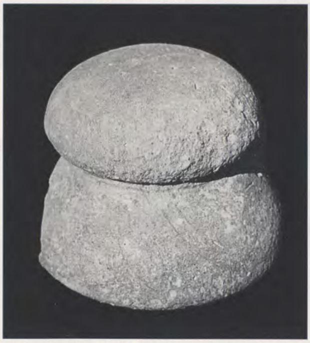
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Terracotta Dabbers. Period V–VI

19. Dabber having rounded body, high neck and thick knobbed handle with rounded top.
Ø 7.3 cm. H. 8.0 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 629.
FS.2 V 2.5–5.5/Cb 2.5–4.0, H. 23.90–23.60 m. Gupta. L.15

20. Big dabber having low body, rounded base and voluminous knobbed handle. Deep narrow hole in the centre of the knob.
Ø 10.0 cm. H. 8.5 cm. Red wash. No. So III A 738.
FS. 2 IV 4.5–8.0/Cb 2.0–7.0, H. 24.30–23.95 m.
Gupta. L.14
Note: 2 more specimens of same type under So III A 343; 726.

21. Dabber having voluminous body, narrow neck and small knobbed handle.
Ø 7.0 cm. H. 6.0 cm. Dull red. No. So III A 431.
FS. 2 V 0.5–9.5/Ca 12.5–13.9, H. 24.75–24.50 m.
Late Gupta. L.14/13

22. Dabber having rounded body, flat base, constricted neck and massive knobbed handle.
Ø 7.5 cm. H. 5.8 cm. Dull red. No. So III A 343a.
FS. 2 IV 6.0–8.0/Ca 17.5–19.5, H. 24.90–24.60 m.
Medieval. L.12

Reels

During the course of excavation 43 terracotta reels have been found from the levels of the Maurya to the Kuṣāṇa times with a concentration in the Kṣatrapa levels, where alone 26 pieces, i.e. more than half of the whole amount, came to light. Shape and size vary considerably. All the reels are of grey colour, sometimes black-slipped. The main types will be recorded here according to their appearance in the successive levels.

Period II–III. Reels from Levels 32 to 26

1. Plain reel; short concave; both sides rounded surface.
Ø 4.0 cm. H. 2.3 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3622.
FS. 2 IV 15.0–16.8/Cc 8.5–9.5, H. 16.00–15.30 m.
Maurya. L.32
Note: One more reel from L.33 registered under So III A 3499.

2. Plain reel; short concave; both sides flat surface.
Ø 2.9 cm. H. 1.9 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2579.
FS. 3 I 6.3–7.5/Ca 11.5–17.6, H. 16.45–16.35 m.
Maurya. L.32
Note: One more specimen from L.29 registered under So III A 3577

3. Plain reel; standard concave; flat surface both sides.
Ø 2.3 cm. H. 2.3 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3472.
FS. 2 IV 0.5–4.0/Cc 0.5–3.5, H. 16.90–16.75 m.
Early Mitra. L.29
Note: One more specimen from L.33 registered under So III A 2591

4. Reel; short concave; concentric rings on both sides and body.
Ø 2.3 cm. H. 1.3 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3029.
FS. 2 V 8.35–10.5/Ca 9.5–10.4, H. 18.64–18.08 m.
Mitra. L.27/26

Period IV–V. Reels from Levels 24 to 17

5. Plain reel; long concave; flat ends.
Ø 2.2 cm. H. 3.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3187.
FS. 2 IV 12.7–14.0/Cc 0.5–9.5, H. 18.90–18.75 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: 3 more specimens of Period IV registered under So III A 2187; 2315; 2505.

6. Plain reel; long concave; rounded ends.
Ø 2.4 cm. H. 3.8 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2663.
FS. 2 V 16.4–17.4/Cc 3.0–6.5, H. 19.18–18.93 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

7. Mutilated reel; long concave; concentric rings on both ends.
Ø 2.1 cm. H. 3.5 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1874.
FS. 2 V 17.0–19.0/Ca 4.5–9.5, H. 20.04–19.80 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23

8. Mutilated reel; standard concave; concentric rings on both shallow ends.
Ø 2.2 cm. H. 1.7 cm. Grey, black-slipped. No. So III A 3198.
FS. 2 IV 10.5–12.7/Cc 0.5–1.1, H. 18.90–18.75 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: One more specimen from L.23 registered under So III A 2711

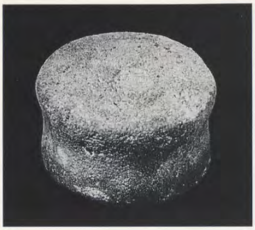
9. Mutilated reel; short concave; concentric rings on both flat ends.
Ø 1.95 cm. H. 1.43 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1758.
FS. 2 V 16.0–17.0/Ca 4.0–9.5, H. 20.04–19.80 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23
Note: 3 more specimens from L.23 registered under So III A 2469; 2503; 2733.

10. Exquisitely modelled reel; short concave; concentric rings on both flat ends.
Ø 2.0 cm. H. 1.6 cm. Grey, black-slipped. No. So III A 2675.
FS. 2 V 1.1/Cb 4.0, H. 19.65 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23
Note: 3 more specimens of same type from L.24/23 registered under So III A 2364; 2777; 3127.

11. Reel; short concave; concentric rings on both flat sides.
Ø 1.9 cm. H. 1.3 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3149.
FS. 2 IV 16.0–17.25/Cc 0.5–9.5, H. 19.20–19.05 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24/23
Note: 8 more specimens of same type from L.24–22 registered under So III A 2157; 2179; 2401; 2504; 2613; 2865; 3062; 3140.

12. Broad reel; short concave; concentric rings on both flat ends.
Ø 3.1 cm. H. 1.3 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2863.
FS. 2 IV 16.5–2 V 0.5/Ca 6.8–9.5, H. 21.80–21.60 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21
Note: One more specimen from L.20/19 registered under So III A 1309.

13. Mutilated reel; short concave; concentric rings on both nearly flat ends.
Ø 2.3 cm. H. 1.1 cm. Grey, black-slipped. So III A 2036.
FS. 2 IV 1.5–9.5/Be 19.5-Ca 0.5, H. 23.15–22.85 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17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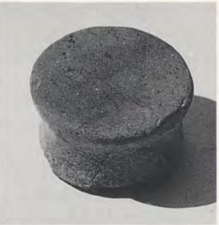
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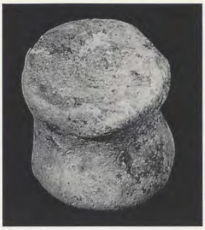
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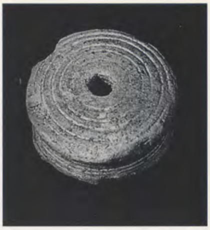
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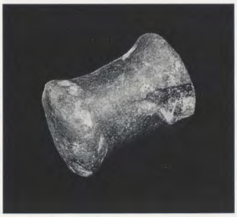
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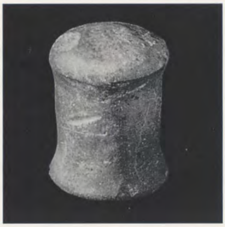
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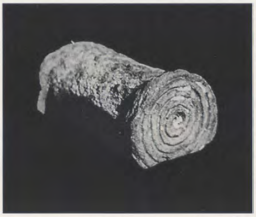
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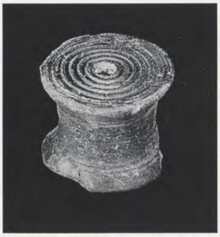
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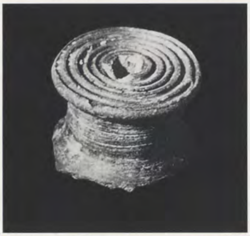
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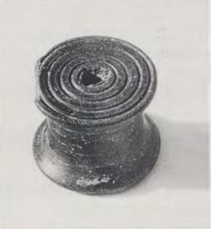
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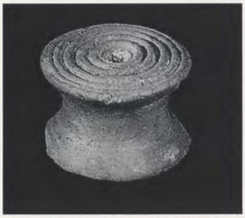
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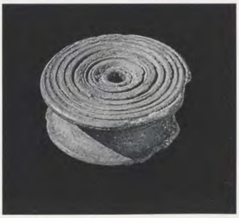
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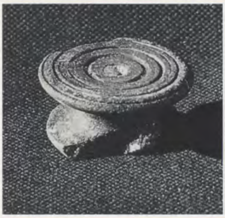
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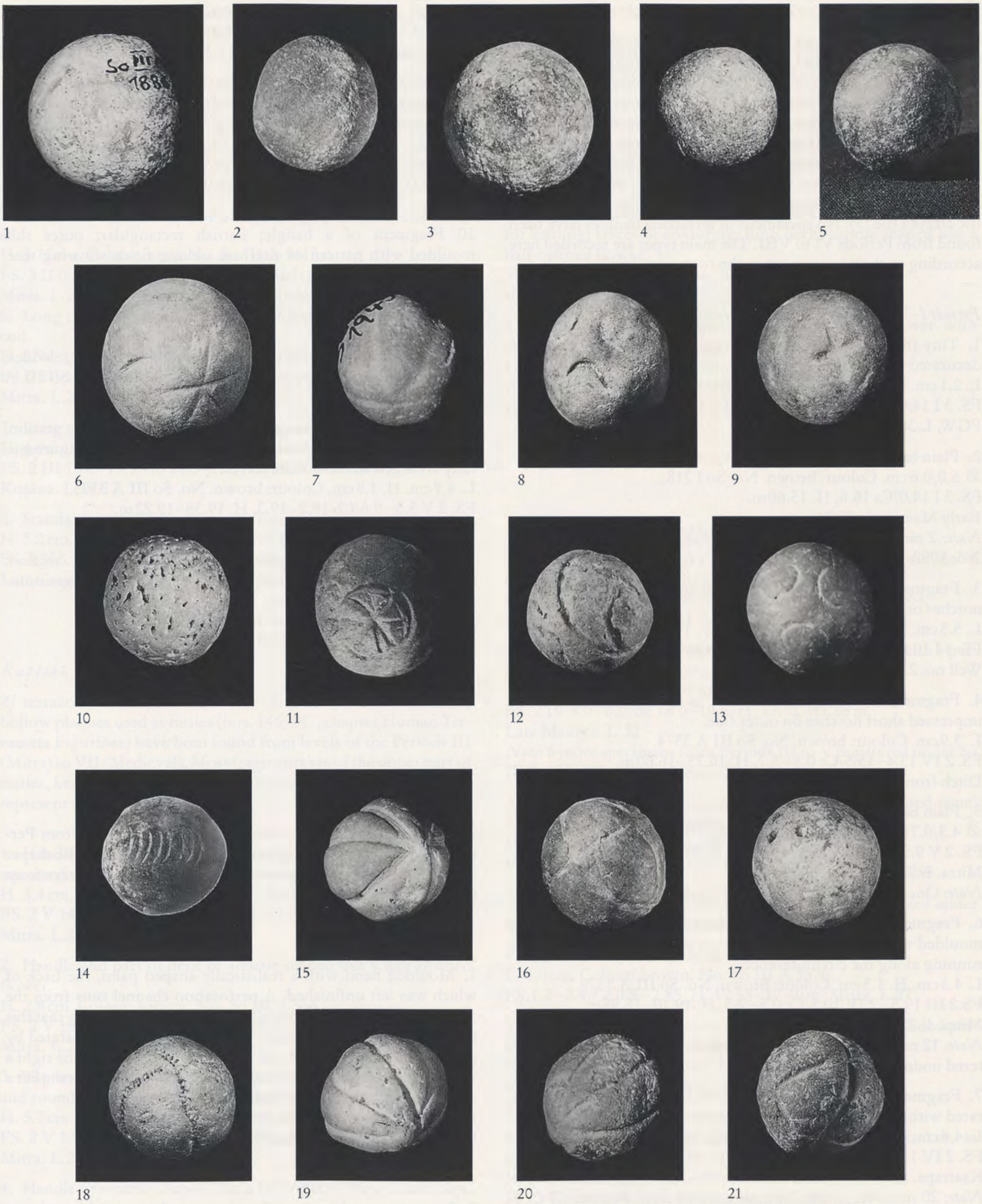
Terracotta Reels. Period II–III (1–4), Period IV–V (5–13)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Terracotta Balls. Plain (1–5), Decorated (6–21)

Bangles

The number of terracotta bangles amounts to 65 altogether. Due to the fragile material and structure most of them are preserved as small fragments only. They have been found all over the Levels 38 to 21, i.e. in the Periods I to V, with a conspicuous concentration in Period IV. The earliest pieces are either circular or triangular (with rounded corners) in section, the later specimens are shaped as a flattish band. Those of circular section are often undecorated while all the others show varying decorations. Two patterns prevail: 1) the double nodules divided by a central line (no. 6), and 2) the creeper (no. 7). No specimens of terracotta bangles have been found from Periods VI to VIII. The main types are recorded here according to their appearance in the successive levels.

Periods I–V. Bangles from Levels 38 to 21

1. Tiny fragment of a bangle; triangular in section; outer side decorated with incised zigzags.
L. 2.1 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2131.
FS. 3 I 14.0–15.5/Ca 14.75–18.0, H. 14.85–14.75 m.
PGW. L.38

2. Plain bangle; irregularly circular; crudely made.
Ø 5.0/0.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So I 218.
FS. 3 I 14.0/Ca 16.6, H. 15.60 m.
Early Maurya. L.35/34
Note: 2 more specimens from L.34/33 registered under So III A 205; 1992.

3. Fragment of a bangle; circular in section; impressed short notches on outer side.
L. 5.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1963.
FS. 3 I 10.8–11.7/Ca 15.9–17.5, H. 15.86–15.26 m.
Well no. 2. Maurya. L.34

4. Fragment of a bangle; triangular in section; double row of impressed short notches on outer side.
L. 3.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3374.
FS. 2 IV 13.4–15.5/Cc 0.5–5.7, H. 16.75–16.60 m.
Ditch from L.30. Śuṅga C.P.

5. Plain bangle; circular section.
Ø 4.3/0.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3471.
FS. 2 V 9.5–10.5/Cb 13.5–19.5, H. 18.80–18.65 m.
Mitra. L.25
Note: One more specimen from L.27 under So III A 3218.

6. Fragment of a bangle; flattish rectangular in section; outer side moulded with two rows of nodules between three parallel ridges running along the circumference.
L. 4.3 cm. H. 1.5 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3379.
FS.2 III 19.5–2 IV 10.5/Cc 0.5–2.5, H. 19.10–18.95 m.
Mitra. L.25
Note: 12 more fragments of same type from Periods III/IV registered under So III A.

7. Fragment of a bangle; flattish rectangular; outer side decorated with moulded herring-bone pattern.
L. 4.8 cm. H. 1.7 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3151.
FS. 2 IV 11.9–13.4/Cc 0.5–5.7, H. 19.20–19.05 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24/23
Note: 20 more fragments of same pattern from Periods III to V registered under So III A.

8. Fragment of a bangle; flattish rectangular in section; outer side decorated with a moulded long-stretched honeycomb pattern.
L. 2.7 cm. H. 1.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1943.
FS. 3 I 0.5–2.5/Ca 9.3–12.8, H. 19.85–19.65 m.
Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

9. Fragment of a bangle; flattish rectangular in section; moulded with a pattern of "pillars" between elevated lines and an adjoining second row of oblique "pillars", originally bordered by a third edging ridge.
L. 3.1 cm. H. 1.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2868.
FS. 2 V 0.5–4.0/Ca 9.5–10.5, H. 20.05–19.70 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

10. Fragment of a bangle; flattish rectangular; outer side moulded with pattern of alternate oblong fields showing tree, ladder, Andrews'cross, Andrews'cross, ladder.
L. 6.2 cm. H. 1.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 2705.
FS. 2 V 6.5–9.0/Cc 5.0–8.9, H. 19.92–19.62 m.
Late Kṣatrapa. L.23/22.
Note: One more specimen of similar pattern: tree, ladder, Andrews' cross, ladder, tree, from L.23 registered as So III A 2410.

11. Fragment of a bangle; flattish rectangular in section; moulded with a pattern similar to a tendril but showing irregularly arranged adversifoliate leaves.
L. 4.9 cm. H. 1.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3393.
FS. 2 V 5.5–9.6/Cb 18.2–19.3, H. 19.38–19.22 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23

12. Fragment of a bangle; flattish rectangular in section; moulded with one row of thick nodules between two ridges running along the circumference.
L. 2.7 cm. H. 1.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1789.
FS. 2 V 8.0–9.5/Cb 11.5–12.9, H. 21.00–20.60 m.
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21

Amulet and Pendants

One Amulet and twenty-three pendants are recorded from Periods II to VII. The amulet is an outstanding specimen, the shapes of the pendants are best presented by seven selected pieces from the successive levels.

Amulet

1. Moulded hand with a realistically shaped palm, the back of which was left unfinished. A perforation channel runs from the side of the thumb to the side of the little finger, indicating that this piece was carried on a string. The finger-joints are separated by pearl rings. Three symbols are marked on the palm: on the right a Svastika turning left, in the centre a Nandyāvarta, and on the left a sign which is known as Indradhvaja.
H. 3.1 cm. Colour: grey, black-slipped. No. So I 328.
FS. 2 V 9.5/Ca 12.0, H. 18.53–18.35 m. Mitra. L.27

Pendants

2. Long truncated cone; perforation near the top end.
H. 4.5 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2571.
FS. 3 I 6.7–8.5/Ca 13.0–17.0, H. 16.65–16.55 m.
Maurya. L.33

3. Irregular long cone; perforation below top end.
H. 5.0 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3615.
FS. 2 IV 7.7–11.2/Cc 7.5–9.5, H. 16.20–16.08 m.
Maurya. L.32

4. Long truncated cone; depression on top; perforation near top end.
H. 4.0. Colour: grey. No. So III A 3456.
FS. 2 IV 15.5–17.0/Cc 0.5–9.5, H. 16.45–16.30 m.
Śuṅga C.P., L.31

5. Irregular long cone; rounded top; rough perforation near top end.
H. 3.75 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1413.
FS. 3 II 0.2–3.5/Ca 16.9–19.5, H. 18.45–18.10 m.
Mitra. L.27/26

6. Long truncated cone; depression on top; perforation near top end.
H. 2.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3507.
FS. 2 III 10.5–13.0/Cc 6.0–9.5, H. 19.10–18.95 m.
Mitra. L.25

7. Long truncated cone; perforation near top end.
H. 4.0 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 1628.
FS. 2 III 16.0–19.5/Cb 18.0–19.5, H. 22.80–22.50 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

8. Standard cone; perforation near top end.
H. 5.2 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 408.
FS. 2 V 5.8–8.0/Cb 0.5–3.5, H. 25.00–24.60 m.
Late Gupta. L.13

Rattles

27 terracotta rattles and fragments of them and 2 sophisticated hollow plaques used as rattles (nos. 146; 147, chapter Human Terracotta Figurines) have been found from levels of the Periods III (Mitra) to VII (Medieval). Most fragments are of the upper part of rattles, i.e. the handle with part of the body. Eight selected pieces represent the types found at Sonkh.

1. Handle and neck of a rattle having slim body and squarely squeezed top shaped like the parapet of a tower.
H. 3.4 cm. Colour: grey-brown. No. So III A 2928.
FS. 2 V 14.5–17.5/Cb 14.5–19.5, H. 19.00–18.85 m.
Mitra. L.25

2. Handle and part of neck of a rattle shaped like a half-opened flower.
H. 2.8 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3567.
FS. 2 V 15.0–16.5/Cc 3.0–9.5, H. 18.88–18.65 m.
Mitra. L.25. *Most common type*.

3. Top and shoulder of a rattle shaped like a bottle. Handle plain and rounded. Traces of decorative incisions.
H. 5.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3596.
FS. 2 V 1.5–4.7/Cc 8.0–9.5, H. 18.78–18.55 m.
Mitra. L.26

4. Handle of a rattle shaped like a half-opened flower with separated petals.
H. 6.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 1734.
FS. 2 V 4.0–8.0/Ca 7.0–9.5, H. 21.86–21.70 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20

5. Body of a rattle with small hole for inserting pebbles. Handle broken off.
H. 6.2 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 1885.
FS. 3 I 0.5/Cb 6.9, H. 21.30 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

6. Fragment of a rattle. Handle shaped like a square parapet of a tower (cp. no. 1). Below neck a hole for inserting pebbles.
H. 6.4 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III A 1388.
FS. 2 IV Cc 3.0–7.5/Cc 2.6–4.5, H. 22.69–22.34 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

7. Complete rattle; hollow globular body with tiny pebbles inside for rattling; traces of colouring; long neck; handle shaped like a half-opened flower.
∅ 6.2 cm. H. 8.6 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 550.
FS. 2 IV 12.85/Ca 8.05, H. 24.25 m. Gupta. L.15

8. Handle of a rattle shaped like a half-opened flower with rounded petals.
H. 5.3 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 595.
FS. 2 V 3.5–9.5/Ca 9.5–10.5, H. 24.80–24.30 m.
Late Gupta. L.14/13.

Miscellaneous Objects

1. Pyriform jar, carinated rim. This jar contains thirty-six identical toe bones of the left front feet of zebus.
H. 21.1 cm. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 3064.
FS. 2 IV 11.07/Ca 5.75, H. 15.55 m. Early Maurya. L.35

2. Indefinite oval terracotta object of rough structure with a perforation near top end. Loom-weight?
∅ 9.4 cm. Depth 2.1 cm. Dull red. No. So III A 3053.
FS. 2 IV 4.0–6.0/Be 18.0–19.5, H. 17.72–17.58 m.
Late Maurya. L.32
Note: 6 more specimens from Periods III to V registered under So III A 139; 909; 2045; 2348;2360; 3291.

3. Indefinite terracotta object of conical shape (truncated cone) with vertical perforation from top to bottom.
H. 4.9 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3504.
FS. 2 IV 0.5–4.0/Cc 0.5–3.4, H. 16.55–16.40 m.
Śuṅga C.P., L.31/30
Note: 5 more specimens from Periods III to VII registered under So III A 189; 190; 316; 1532; 3602.

4. Small spoon(?). Crudely made.
L. 4.0 cm. Colour: brown. No. So III A 3576.
FS.1.2–2.4/Cc 0.5–2.85, H. 17.55–17.40 m. Mitra. L.27

5. Rectangular dish with one corner separated by a rounded partition. Edges all over decorated with notches.
26.0 × 18.5 × 3.2 cm. Brown. No. So III A 3709.
FS. 2 V 7.2–9.8/Cc 4.1–6.2, H. 18.30–18.15 m.
Mitra. L.26

6. Hand-modelled handle with moulded face of a monkey, in tilted position on fragment of wheel-thrown pot.
H. 10.4 cm. Colour: brick-red. No. So I 253.
FS. 2 V 12.5/Ca 9.0, H. 18.85 m. Mitra. L.26

7. Unidentified terracotta object.
19.3 × 15.9 × 3.5 cm. Brown. No. So III A 3535.
FS. 2 III 17.15/Cc 9.4, H. 19.15 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

Grey Stone Plaques

A special group of stone images are the small plaques made of grey stone depicting brahmanical deities found in post-Gupta to medieval levels. They are made of shale or slate splintering easily. This accounts for so many tiny fragments among the altogether 80 pieces of such plaques recovered during the excavation. The few fully preserved icons and the larger fragments show plaques which measured between 6.0 and 14.0 cm in height when complete. They were quite obviously images for domestic worship and seem to depict exclusively brahmanical deities. The identification is not always easy because the workmanship is, as a rule, rather crude, of rough sketching and stylized delineation. There is often no detailed depiction of attributes so important for recognition.

The deities represented in the Sonkh plaques are Sūrya, Viṣṇu, Durgā as Mahiṣāsuramardinī, and Gaṇeśa. A number of unidentified fragments shows an even richer iconographical spectrum.

The find-spots ranging between level 15 and 8 do not help to establish a stylistic development because these so easily transportable plaques have obviously been used by generations, one after the other. Nearest to Gupta style stands no. 1 with its curled hair-do, while most of the others seem to be of later origin. Iconographical differences offer the Viṣṇu plaques nos. 4 to 7 in comparison with no. 8. While the first shows the attributes *cakra* and *gadā* standing on the ground with the god's hands upon it, no. 8 depicts him carrying *śaṅkha* in his left lower hand. But all that one can safely say is that these plaques have, according to their find-places in Sonkh, to be dated between 7th and 13th century AD. They are not modern products as sometimes stated.

1. Upper half of a plaque depicting god Sūrya. Presumably seated in a chariot, having raised his two arms holding with the hands one lotus-stalk each showing a triangularly shaped leave turned sideways and a full blossom hanging down between stalks and head. This head is framed by elegantly curled hair topped by a conical crown. Face, chest and arms are partly chipped off. An elevated plain rim borders the plaque. Under the arms and along the waist the stone is perforated. The back is plain and smooth.
9.5 × 9.5 × 1.6 cm. Colour: grey. No. So I 113.
FS. 2 III 19.5/Ca 17.3, H. 25.50 m. Medieval. L.11.
On account of its style an origin nearer to Gupta is probable.

2. Nearly complete plaque showing Sūrya in a medallion seated on a chariot. The plaque is bordered by an elevated decorated frame shaped like a double-H. Above and below the horizontal beams seven cylindrical projections are carved having incised eyes and hair. In connection with Sūrya one may think of the seven horses and seven sisters, but this pattern is not restricted to Sūrya plaques alone. The medallion is surrounded by a vaulted surface decorated with triple lines. Sūrya sits in godohika-āsana, the arms raised, holding one lotus each in his hands. All details of face, head-dress, ornaments and garment are crudely incised. The hair seems to fall to the shoulders. Characteristic of this type of plaques are the large eyes, nose and mouth. The back is plain.
13.9 × 9.3 × 1.3 cm. Colour: violet-grey. No. So I 85.
FS. 2 V 1.1/Ca 0.3, H. 24.73 m. Medieval. L.12

3. Fragment of a Sūrya plaque. Preserved is the headless body of the god, clad in a plaited short garment and seated with drawn up legs in a chariot provided with a round balustrade of which three rods are visible. Below to the left a horse with elaborate head-dress is turned sideways, of a second horse to the right only traces of the head and its head-dress is to be made out. The plaque was framed by a plain, slightly rounded border.
8.1 × 8.6 × 1.4 cm. Colour: grey-red. No. So III B 245.
FS. 2 IV 8.75/Cb 4.9, H. 24.50 m. Early Medieval. L.13
Note: 5 more fragments of Sūrya plaques registered under So III B 172; 192; 243; 376; 456.

4. Fragmentary plaque depicting standing Viṣṇu. Head-part missing. The god is four-armed, the details of ornaments, *upavīta* and garment are thinly incised. The upper arms are raised, holding the *vanamālā* which is hanging down to the knees. Behind the left hand part of a shawl is visible. The front arms are lowered to the attributes *gadā* and *cakra*, standing on the ground. To the left, a stylized figure is placed before the club, to the right a same arrangement was intended but remained unfinished for want of space. The reverse is plain and smooth.
10.5 × 7.8 × 2.0 cm. Colour: grey. No. So I 108.
FS. 2 V 6.8/Cb 0.6, H. 24.70 m. Medieval. L.11

5. Fragment of a plaque with the remains of a standing Viṣṇu preserved from waist to knees. He is clad in a short garment decorated with criss-cross lines forming rhomboid pattern. The girdle is marked by three parallel horizontal lines from which two oblique stripes extend to the lower hem. On the right hip traces of an incised *upavīta*. From the lowered left arm falls the *vanamālā* to the knee. The left hand rests on the remaining upper part of two squared objects, representing most probably *cakra* and *cakrapuruṣa* (cp. no. 4). To the right part of the elevated border decorated with notches.
7.3 × 7.3 × 1.7 cm. Colour: Violet-grey. No. So III B 321.
FS. 2 V 9.73/Cb 19.5, H. 23.10 m. Ditch. L.13

6. Lower part of a plaque with the legs and two attributes of Viṣṇu. The god is standing frontal, clad in a long garment the plaits of which reach down to the ankles. To the left stands a massive club (*gadā*), to the right two parts of socle on which a dented *cakra* is placed. The elevated border seems to have been plain. Reverse side smooth.
6.3 × 4.9 × 1.4 cm. Light grey. No. So III B 289.
FS. 2 IV 14.55/Cc 2.4, H. 23.56 m. Post-Gupta. L.13

7. Damaged fragments of a Viṣṇu plaque consisting of three combined pieces. Preserved are the legs of the god standing frontal, part of the *vanamālā* hanging to the knees, one left arm placed on an attribute. The legs are covered with a garment the gathered folds of which appear in between. To the sides of the legs the plaque was perforated. The presumably lower left arm is bent downwards, its hand resting on the personified attribute *gadā*. The *gadādevī* is shaped like a bust placed on a decorated club. She wears a necklace and a piled up coiffure with horizontally arranged strands. The space between this hair-tower and the border is vaulted. Normally one should expect the *cakra* beside this left leg, but hair-dress and shape of the breast prove the figure to be a female. The plaque ends below in a sort of plinth lineated with incised lines and is bordered on the right by an elevated dented frame.
11.3 × 5.1 × 1.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III B 246.
FS. 2 IV 9.3/Cb 2.85, H. 24.60 m. Post-Gupta. L.13

8. Part of a Viṣṇu plaque consisting of three fragments showing the god standing frontal without head and right arms. Horizontal and oblique incised lines indicate girdle, garment, bracelet and *vanamālā*. The upper left arm is raised, the lower is bent downwards holding in its hand a big *śaṅkha* in oblique position. To the right remains of an elevated dented frame are visible.
9.0 × 6.1 × 1.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III B 99.
FS.2 IV 6.1/Ca 15.7, H. 25.55 m. Late Medieval. L.8/7
Note: 4 more fragments of Viṣṇu plaques registered under So III B 98; 110; 231; 317.

9. Fragmentary plaque showing Viṣṇu standing on Kūrma. Crude workmanship does not permit to explain all the details. The god is standing frontal on an animal which is undoubtedly a tortoise. The details like flowery crown, facial features, ornaments, *upavīta* and garment are marked by incisions. On the forehead three vertical Vaiṣṇava strokes! The lower right hand seems to hold a lotus-stalk. The left upper arm is raised, the lower one bent downwards, holding a defaced object in its hand. Behind the tortoise and the legs of Viṣṇu the background is incised with lines and half circles, probably indicating water. On top and to the right the plaque shows an elevated border with criss-cross decoration.
11.1 × 8.6 × 1.3 cm. Colour: Violet-grey. No. So I 119.
FS. 2 IV 3.9/Cb 2.05, H. 24.85 m. Early Medieval. L.12

10. Characteristic face of a grey stone plaque. Details of headdress and face marked by incised lines. Eyes undercut, nose triangular and oversized, small nostrils, sharply lined broad mouth. Round mark on forehead (*ūrṇā?*).
H. 3.7 cm. Colour: grey. No. So I 79.
FS.2 IV 17.9/Cb 7.02, H. 25.90 m. Late Medieval.L.8/7
Note: One more head of same type registered under So III B 214.

11. Small plaque showing Durgā with a lion. The iconography is similar to Mahiṣāsuramardinī depictions, but here the buffalo is absent. The crudely carved goddess is four-armed and, as the position of the legs indicates, seated. She is perhaps meant to be sitting on her lion like a Siṃhavāhinī. Her face displays large bulging eyes, long nose and small mouth. The head carries a low crown. In the raised right back hand Durgā holds a sword with the blade horizontally behind the crown, the front right arm is lowered, holding the shaft of a *triśūla* with the hand. The object in the raised left back hand has to be a shield, the lower right arm is bent down, having a flower (?) in the palm of the hand.
8.1 × 4.6 × 1.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So I 164.
FS. 2 III 17.1/Cb 14.5, H. 23.83 m. Ditch from a level later than 15.
Note: One more indefinite fragment of a female deity registered as So III B 322.

12. Complete plaque of a Gaṇeśa. Large, nearly cylindrical head with right ear, incised eyes, third eye and wrinkles towards the left turned trunk. The god is seated in godohika-āsana, the body shaped like a vessel marked with two horizontal lines. The feet stand on a base. The plaque has no elevated border.
6.1 × 3.2 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III B 244.
FS. Filling in 2 V/Cb.

13. Crudely cut plaque with the figure of Gaṇeśa. Head cylindrical as in no. 12, trunk turned left. The figure is seated in godohika-āsana, its body is shaped like a plain vessel.
6.2 × 3.7 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III B 124.
FS. Filling in 2 V/Ca.
Note: Two more fragments of Gaṇeśa plaques registered under So III B 78; 120.

14. Fragment of a plaque with the remains of a horse presumably standing on its hind-legs and turned towards the frame of the relief.
7.8 × 6.2 × 1.6 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III B 293.
FS. 2 IV 15.0/Cb 17.5, H. 23.85 m. L.14

15. Fragment of a plaque with unidentified scene.
7.9 × 5.9 × 2.0 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III B 285.
FS. 2 V 8.3/Cb 2.65, H. 23.95 m. L.14

16. Fragment of a mutilated plaque with unidentified scene. Recognizable is a horse's head between conical rods.
8.0 × 8.0 × 1.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III B 217.
FS. 2 V 0.5–9.5/Ca 9.5–10.5, H. 25.25–24.90 m.
Medieval. L.11

17. Fragment of a plaque showing remains of a worn rectangular block with a lower rounded figure having incised eyes. Round border decorated with band of oblique strokes.
4.2 × 3.0 × 1.1 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III B 165.
FS. 2 V 2.0/Cb 9.55, H. 25.45 m. Medieval. L.10

18. Fragment of a crudely modelled plaque with unidentified figure. Skanda?
10.3 × 5.3 × 2.1 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III B 186.
FS.2 IV 1.45/Cb 5.0, H. 24.90 m. Early Medieval. L.12

19. Base part of a plaque with two step-like rectangular objects standing one above the other, decorated with rhomboid incisions. To the left and right remains of a zigzag ornamented frame. The base is embellished with a wavy line cut in between parallel bands.
Size: 8.1 × 6.5 cm. Colour: greyred.
No. So III B 626. FS. Ditch in 2 III/Cb.

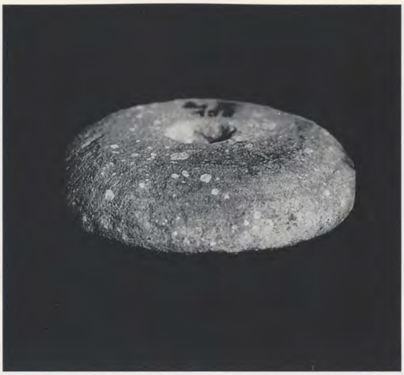
Miscellaneous Stone Reliefs

1. Part of a sattī-sattā stone showing an angularly carved human figure moving to left, the right arm holding the hand of a second person following him. The figure stands in relief on the rough background.
28.0 × 13.5 cm. Colour: dull red. No. So III B 135.
FS. 2 IV 19.1/Cb 6.1, H. 25.60 m. Pre-Jāṭ. L.7

2. Sattī-sattā stone with the depiction of two figures with raised arms moving to left. Background of figures rough. To the sides of the figures illegible remains of script, perhaps names.
Size: 44.0 × 31.0 cm. Colour: Mottled red sandstone.
No. So I 65. FS. Reused as covering plate in L.4
Note: 3 more small fragments of sattī-sattā stones from Jāṭ levels registered under So III B 2; 34; 104.

3. Large stone beam with carving of a 30.0 by 25.5 cm measuring relief depicting an archer in the act of shooting. The man has turned to his left carrying a quiver over his right shoulder and stretching the bow with his arms ready to speed the arrow. The bow shows irregular bulges, perhaps traces of flowers?
56.5 × 27.5 × 18.5 cm. Colour: Mottled red sandstone.
No. So I 105. FS. 2 V 14.6/Ca 9.6, H. 26.40 m. Jāṭ. L.5

4. Fragment of a stone relief with the remains of a monkey-warrior holding a shield in his raised hand.
Size: 16.1 × 9.2 × 4.5 cm. Colour: grey-black.
No. So I 53. FS. 2 V 6.0/Cb 2.9, H. 27.15 m. Jāṭ. L.4.



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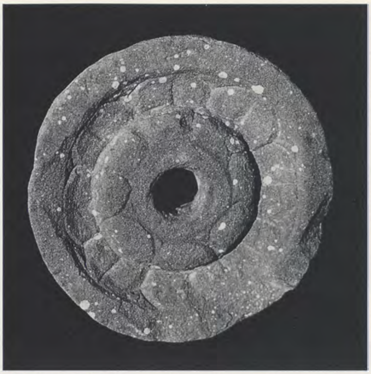

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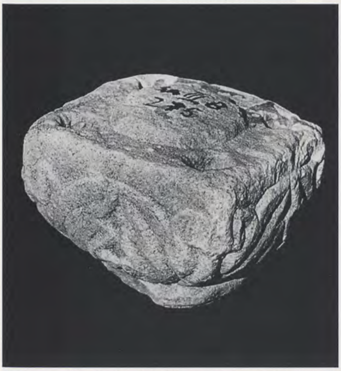

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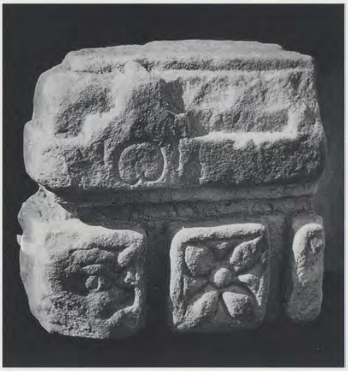

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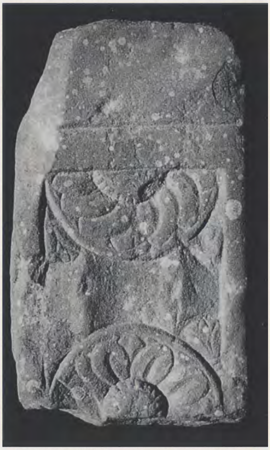

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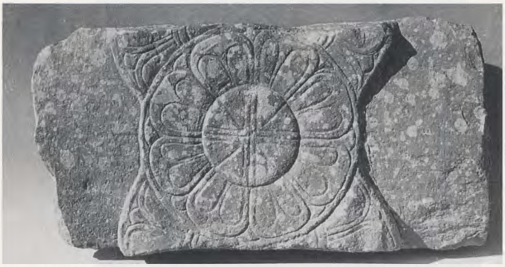

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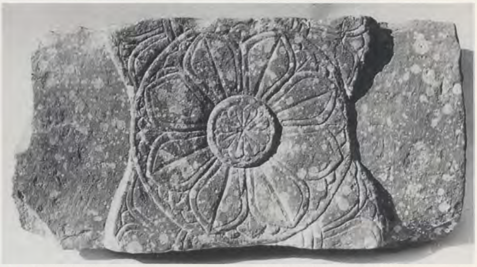

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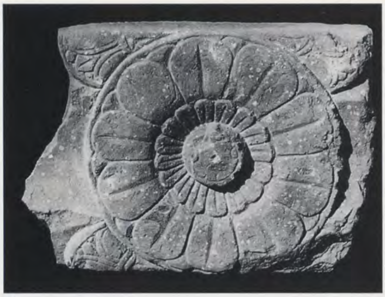

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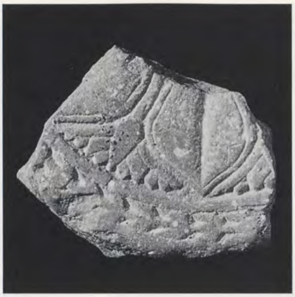

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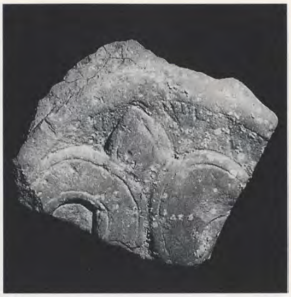

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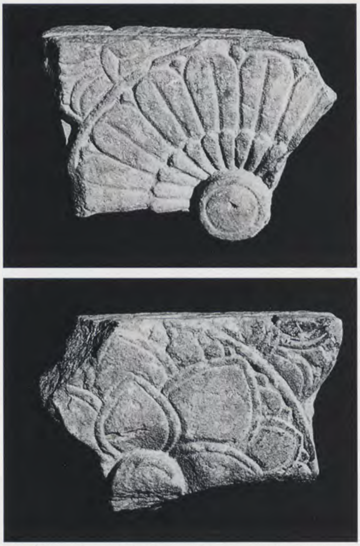
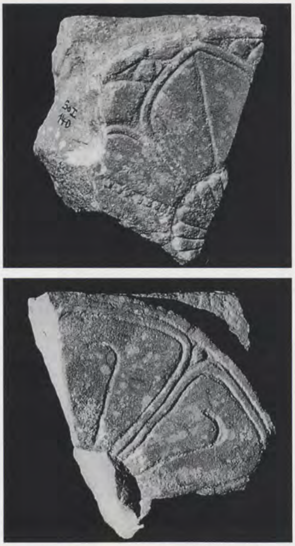


36a, b



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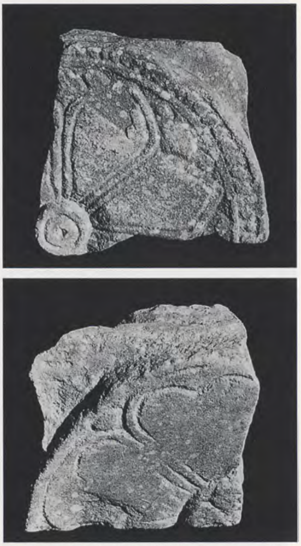

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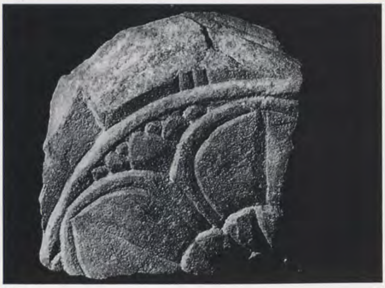

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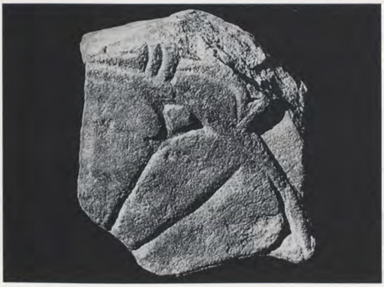

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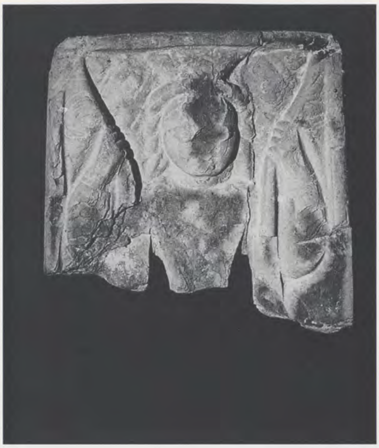

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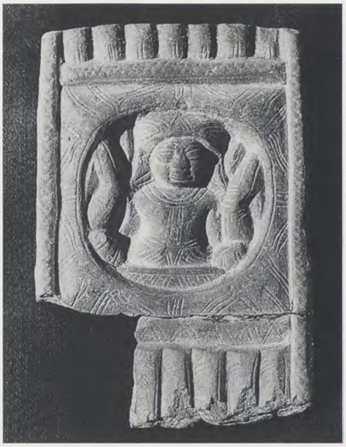

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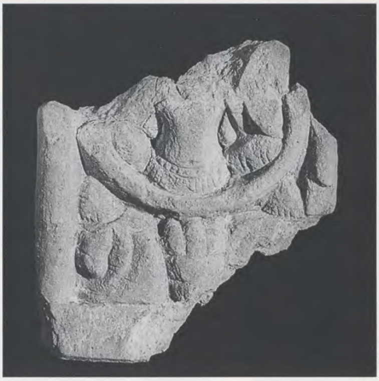

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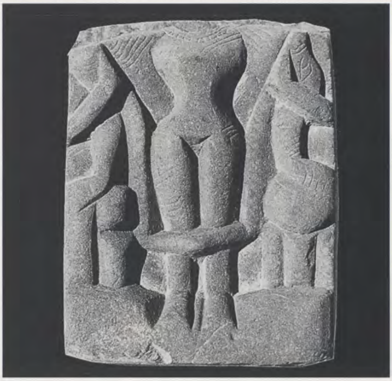

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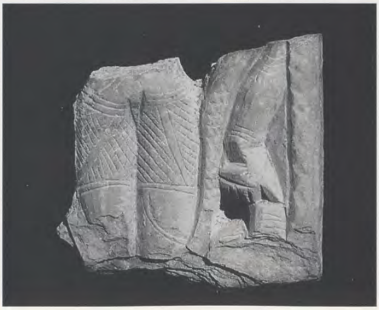

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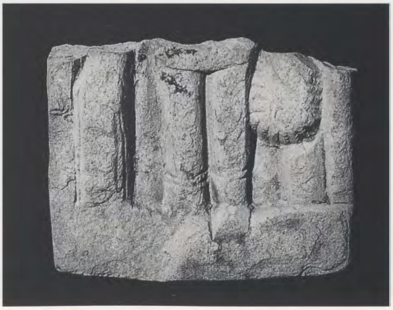
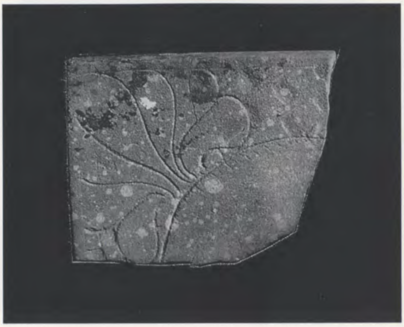


6

Stone Plaques



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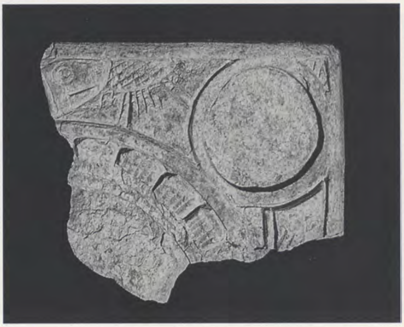

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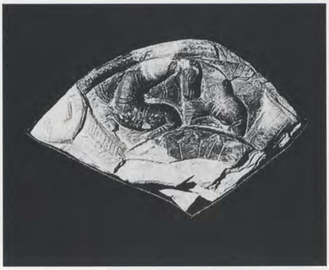

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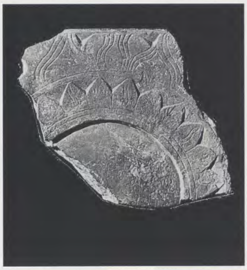

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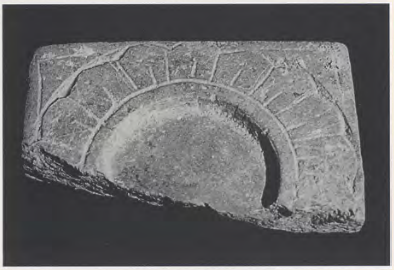

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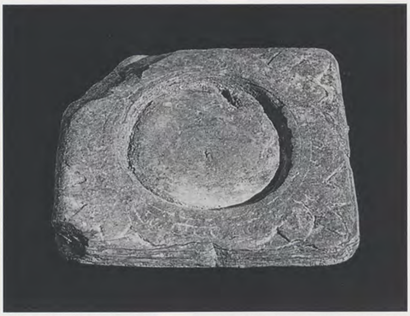

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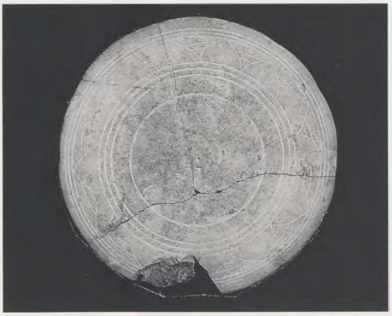

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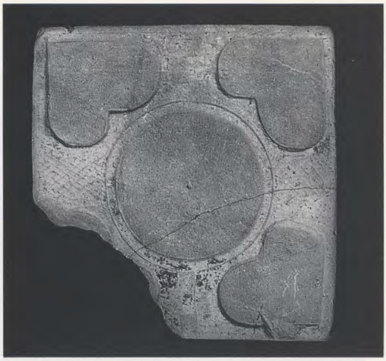
Stone Trays and Plaques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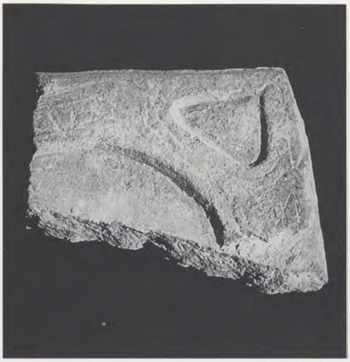
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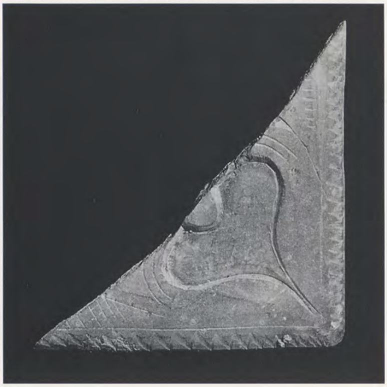
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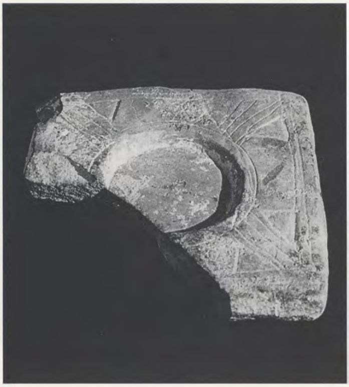
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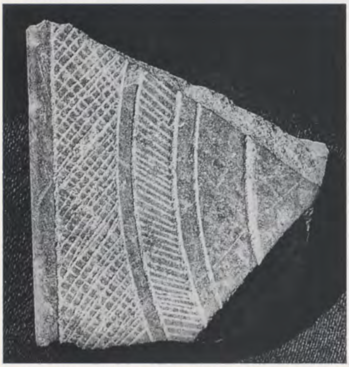
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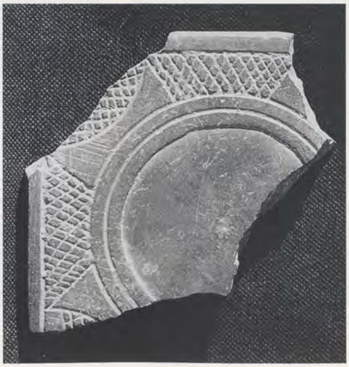
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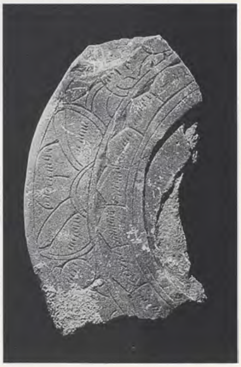
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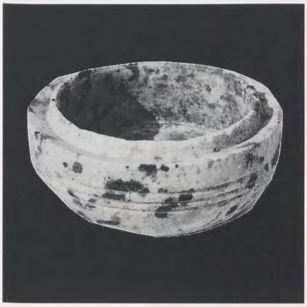

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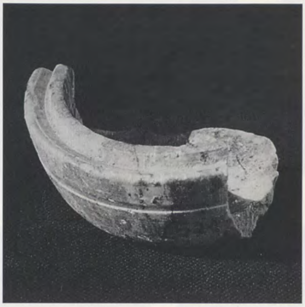

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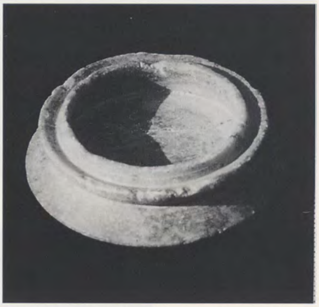

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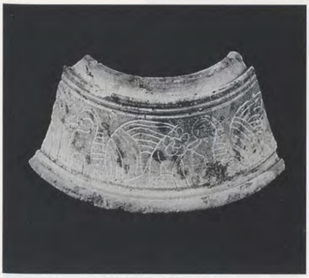

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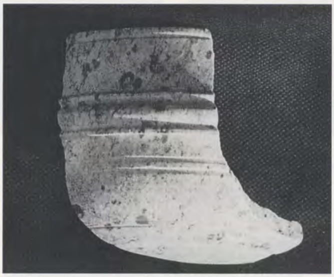

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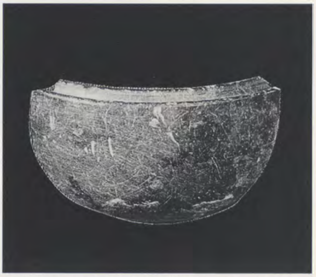

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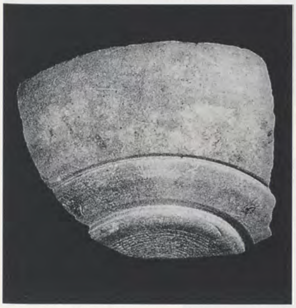

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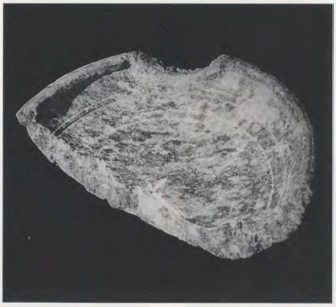

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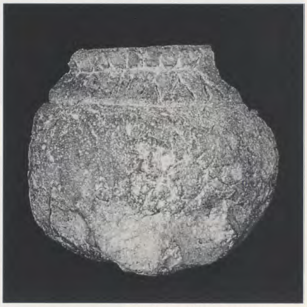

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Stone Caskets and Lids

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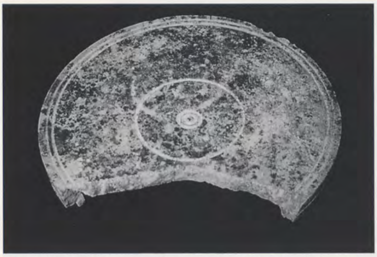
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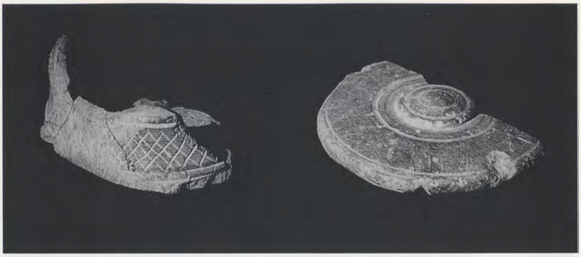
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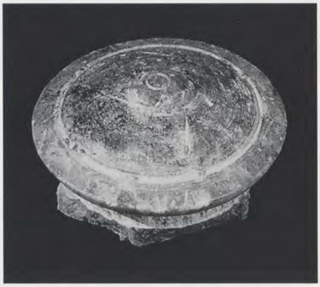
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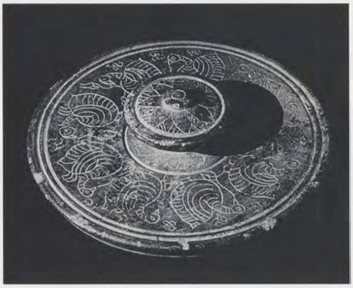
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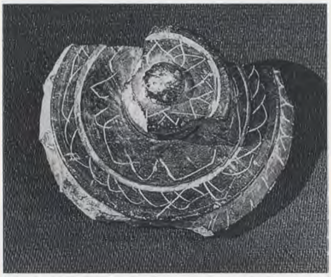
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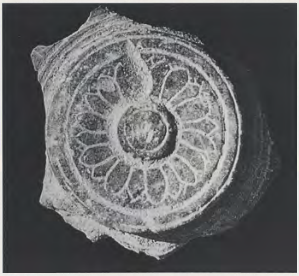
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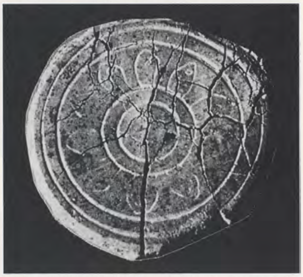
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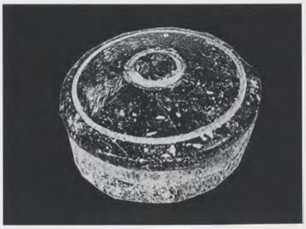
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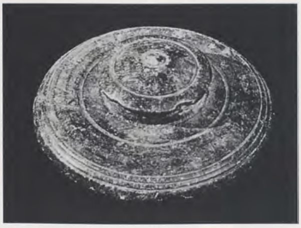

18

Stone Caskets and Lids

Diverse Hand-Mill Stones

In all 149 pieces of stone were recovered which have in one or the other way been used for grinding cereals by hand, serving mainly as querns, mortars, pestles and dabbers. The material is, as a rule, sandstone, mostly the mottled red Kerauli stone so well known from Mathura.

The different types of querns will be described below. The way pestles were used on the querns and in the mortar is best illustrated in nos. 11, 12 and 20 where querns and a mortar are shown found together with their pestles.

A few pieces originate from Maurya and Mitra levels, the bulk belongs to Kuṣāṇa habitations. It looks as if in the earlier levels the quern table was in fashion while in the Kuṣāṇa times the quern plate (without legs) has been favoured. The circular or rotary quern appears only in the late Kuṣāṇa to post-Gupta levels. The best preserved or otherwise significant specimens of the different types will be discussed and illustrated below.

Querns

Four main types of querns have been found: a) rectangular querns standing on legs (i.e.quern tables), b) rectangular plates without legs, c) circular stones (i.e.rotary querns), and d) architectural pieces reused as querns.

a) Quern Tables

1. Fragment of a quern table preserving one conical shaped leg and part of the slightly sloping working plate. The earliest specimen of a quern found at Sonkh.
Size: 15.8 × 14.4 × 12.1 cm. Mottled red sandstone with spots of light vein.
No. So III B 500. FS. 3 II 6.0/Ca 18.3, H. 15.80 m.
Maurya. L.34

2. Quern table broken in two parts. Four irregularly tapering legs. Plate projecting beyond the legs on one of the small sides. On this projection are grooved the three symbols *indradhvaja, nandyāvarta*, and *svastika* from left to right (cp. the terracotta amulet no. 1).
Size: 38.0 × 17.5 × 17.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone with light vein.
No. So III B 754. FS.2 V 8.5/Cc 6.8, H. 18.05 m.
Mitra. L.27

3. Quern table with four legs. Plate worn out and projecting on one of the small sides. On the projection traces of the symbols *indradhvaja, nandyāvarta* and *svastika* from left to right.
Size: 41.0 × 19.0 × 18.1 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 511. FS. 3 I 4.5/Ca 6.5, H. 18.80 m.
Mitra. L.26

4. Damaged quern table with projecting plate on one of the small sides. Legs roughly worked out as stubs.
Size: 13.1 × 6.4 × 5.3 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 701. FS. 2 V 8.3/Cb 2.6, H. 19.05 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24

5. Fragment of a quern table with the plate projecting on the small side. Legs worked out by cutting a round arch.
Size: 18.3 × 14.9 × 13.0 cm. Light vein of mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 699. FS. 2 IV 13.7/Ca 7.5, H. 20.75 m.
Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

b) Rectangular Quern Plates

6. Thick quern plate with projecting end on one of the small sides. Stone crudely hewn in analogy to the shape of the quern tables but without legs.
Size: 28.0 × 18.4 × 7.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 680. FS. 2 IV 5.6/Be 18.0, H. 19.98 m.
Mitra. L.27

7. Quern in shape of a block of stone with one tapering end. Crudely hewn in analogy to the shape of the quern tables but without legs.
Size: 19.5 × 8.7 × 7.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 706. FS.2 V 8.7/Cb 0.7, H. 19.10–18.90 m.
Mitra. L.25

8. Rectangular quern plate with cuts and dents on the working face.
27.6 × 22.2 × 5.2 cm. Red sandstone. No. So III B 543.
FS. 2 V 16.2–19.0/Ca 17.3–19.5, H. 20.20–19.90 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.23

9. Fragment of a quern plate with roughened surface.
26.5 × 27.0 × 5.5 cm. Buff sandstone. No. So III B 671.
FS. 2 V 7.7/CB 1.5, H. 19.82 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

10. Fragment of a slightly curved quern plate. Roughened surface.
18.5 × 15.0 × 5.2 cm. Kerauli sandstone. No. So III B 736.
FS.2 IV 0.5–9.3/Ca 19.2-Cb 0.5, H. 21.60–21.40 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

11. Rectangular quern plate and pestle found together. Pestle ovoid in section.
Size: Plate 35.0 × 18.5 × 5.9 cm. Pestle L.22.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 465 + 466. FS.2 V 4.5/Cc 2.7, H. 21.90 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19

12. Rectangular quern plate and pestle with curved ends. Both pieces found together at the same spot as no. 11. Pestle plano-convex in section.
Size: 47.0 × 24.5 × 5.7 cm. Pestle L.33.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone with light vein.
No. So III B 467 + 468. FS.2 V 4.5/Cc 2.7, H. 21.90 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.19

c) Rotary Querns

13. Mill wheel with central perforation and a hole near the edge for insertion of a handle. Upper part of hand-mill.
Ø 38.5 cm. Th. 4.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 226. FS. 2 IV 8.0/Ca 5.2, H. 24.20 m.
Gupta. L.15

14. Mill wheel with central hub on one side and perforation near the edge for insertion of a handle. Upper part of hand-mill.
Ø 40.5 cm. Th. 4.0/5.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 138. FS. 2 V 10.5/Ca 15.5, H. 24.60–24.35 m.
Early Medieval. L.13

15. Mill wheel with conical hub. Lower part of hand-mill.
Ø 35.0 cm. Th. 6.3 cm. Kerauli sandstone. No. So III B 212.
FS. 2 IV 4.0/Ca 11.7, H. 24.30 m. Gupta. L.15

16. Fragment of a roller mill in shape of the upper part of a jar with rim but solid with central perforation.

18.0 × 14.3 × 13.6 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 339.
FS. 2 C 9.5–10.5/Cc 0.5–9.3, H. 23.02–22.62 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

d) Architectural pieces reused as Querns

A number of architectural pieces like coping-stones, pillars and sculptures have been misused for grinding purposes. As these "querns" have no special characeristics other then dents in the stone, one selected piece may illustrate this group.

17. Architectural piece reused as quern.
10.0 × 14.0 × 5.0 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 236.
FS. 2 IV 2.4/Be 18.5, H. 23.75 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

Mortars

18. Fragment of a mortar preserving the polished inner side of the mortar-bowl. Judging from the depth of the bowl and the size of the piece it seems to be part of a mortar in the shape of nos. 19–20.
Size: 22.0 × 15.5 × 17.7 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 662. FS. 2 V 3.5/Ca 2.5, H. 19.60 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24

19. Two pieces of a conical mortar. The rough outer side indicates that it was placed in the earth. The smaller piece is part of the pointed end.
Size: 40.0 × 31.5 × 30.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 742 + 743. FS. 2 V 19.9/Cc 0.8, H. 20.55 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

20. Complete mortar and pestle with two curved ends. Found together. Conical shape and rough outside proves that the object had to be embedded in the ground to make it workable.
Size: 50.0 × 25.5 × 25.0 cm. Pestle L.27.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 260. FS. 2 IV 5. 5/Ca 3.5, H. 23.50 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

21. Fragment of a larger stone with two mortar-holes.
Size: 57.1 × 38.0 × 16.5 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 92. FS. 2 IV 10.5/Ca 7.0, H. 26.30 m.
Jāṭ. L.7

22. Large mortar cut as a rectangular block, decorated with squarely incised lines framing the mortar-hole.
Size:? Red sandstone. No. So III B 61.
FS. 2 V 0.5/Ca 19.2, H. 26.60 m. Jāṭ. L.5/4

23. Mortar-bowl with rough outer side.
Ø 34.7 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 42.
FS. 7.8/Ca 9.2, H. 26.60 m. Jāṭ. L.5/4

Pestles and Dabbers

Of the objects used for grinding or crushing 79 are pestles or dabbers. As such implements have no standardized shapes they are quite different in make. A number of pieces from various levels have been selected to illustrate this group.

24. Irregularly cylindrical pestle.
L. 11.6 cm. Ø 4.0 cm. Kerauli stone. No. So III B 700.
FS. 2 V 11.9/Cb 3.0, H. 18.80 m. Mitra. L.25

25. Dabber with bulgy knob, dividing the piece in two nearly equal halfs.
Ø 5.8 cm. H. 6.1 cm. Red sandstone. No. So III B 424.
FS. 3 I 11.0/Ca 14.0, H. 19.17 m. Mitra. L.25

26. Pestle, lenticular in section.
20.0 × 6.5 × 4.3 cm. Grey-red sandstone. No. So III B 632.
FS. 2 IV 4.7–10.5/Be 16.7–17.7, H. 20.85–20.58 m.
Kṣatrapa. L.24

27. Long pestle with thickened ends. Plano-convex in section.
L. 37.5 cm. Red sandstone. No. So III B 597.
FS.2 V 5.5/Cb 6.5, H. 20.55 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

28. Short pestle or dabber, presumably used also as hammer-stone. Lenticular in section.
Ø 5.1 cm. L. 8.6 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 722.
FS. 2 IV 9.7/Ca 2.0, H. 21.35 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

29. Short pestle; nearly circular in section. Rounded ends.
Ø 2.6 cm. L. 6.0 cm. Red sandstone. No. So III B 586.
FS. 2 V 0.5–9.5/Cb 9.5–10.5, H. 21.53–21.22 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21

30. Pestle or dabber of irregularly conical shape with truncated top.
H. 5.5 cm. Red sandstone. No. So III B 323.
FS. 2 V 2.0/Cb 4.5, H. 22.30 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

31. Pestle, slightly increasing in thickness from one end to the other. Ovoid in section.
11.6 × 6.7 cm. Mottled red sandstone. No. So III B 421.
FS. 2 IV 7.2/Ca 11.0, H. 22.50 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

32. Dabber with constricted neck, flat knob and rounded body.
H. 5.7 cm. Reddish samdstone. No. So III B 324.
FS.2 V 2.5/Cc 2.3, H. 22.60 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16

33. Pestle; circular in section.
Ø 6.5 cm. L. 17.7 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 268. FS. 2 IV 0.5/Cb 5.5, H. 23.10 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

34. Conical pestle nearly circular in section.
L. 10.0 cm. Ø 2.5/3.5 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 176. FS. 3 I 3.0/Ca 11.3, H. 23.20 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

35. Long pestle; circular in section.
Ø 6.5 cm. L. 26.3 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 112. FS. 2 IV 9.15–9.4/Ca 11.5, H. 25.45 m.
Medieval. L.11

Balls

The excavation yielded 97 balls of stone. They are made of sandstone or quartzite and, with a few exceptions are all of spherical shape. In size they range from 1.8 to 11.0 cm in diameter, but more than half of them measure between 3.0 and 4.9 cm. The distribution is as follows

1.8– 1.9 cm = 9 balls
2.0– 2.9 cm = 15 balls
3.0– 3.9 cm = 29 balls
4.0– 4.9 cm = 34 Balls
5.0– 5.9 cm = 8 balls
6.0– 6.9 cm = 3 balls
7.0– 7.9 cm = 2 balls
10.1–11.0 cm = 1 ball

The smallest balls (1.8–1.9 cm) have been found only in levels of Periods V to VII while the bulk of the 3.0 to 4.9 cm specimens occurs in all levels. The weight of balls does not reveal any system. The function of such balls has often been discussed. The most convincing conclusion has been drawn by Sankalia (1971, pp. 332 ff.), who argues that these balls "are almost certainly sling balls" (for killing birds and hunting animals). But this must not have been the only utilization of so practical an object as a stone ball.
The photograph of a collective find of eleven stone balls may illustrate this group of objects.

1. Eleven stone balls of different size.
Ø from 1.8 to 10.9 cm. Sandstone and quartzite.
No. So III B 28. FS. Filling in 2 IV/Cb.

Other Stone Implements

a) Ring-stones

1. Oblong ring-stone with rough surface, hole seems to have been bored from both sides.
15.4 × 8.6 × 5.0 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 659.
FS. 2 V 5.8/Ca 19.7, H. 20.15 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

2. Circular ring-stone, perforated from both sides.
Ø 3.1 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 688.
FS. 2 III 16.7/Cb 6.5, H. 21.68 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

3. Circular ring-stone, perforated from both sides. Scratches along edges of hole.
Ø 3.2 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 475.
FS. 3 I 2.0/Ca 9.8, H. 20.74 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.22

b) Hammer stones

4. Roundish hammer stone with flattened top and base. Ridges of harder vein of stone.
Ø 7.7 cm. Mottled red sandstone. No. So III B 170.
Trench 4 (2 I/Bd), H. 16.20 m. PGW. L.39

5. Flat oval hammer stone with rounded edges.
Ø 6.4 cm. Colour: dark grey. No. So III B 549.
FS. 2 V 10.5/Ca 9.5, H. 19.88 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

6. Roller-shaped hammer stone or anvil. Longish dent on top, round depressions (made by use) on the sides.
Ø 5.1 cm. L. 7.4 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 23. FS. Tower, between mud-brick walls.
Medieval. L.11

7. Hammer stone of roundish shape with flattened top and bottom. Strong traces of use.
Ø 4.6 cm. H. 3.2 cm. Kerauli stone. No. So III B 137.
FS. 2 V 14.0–18.0/Ca 8.0–9.5, H. 25.44–25.00 m.
Medieval. L.11

c) Discs

Altogether 20 discs of different thickness, mostly of Kerauli stone. Four specimens may stand for all.

8. Stone disc; surface partly chipped off.
Ø 3.9 cm. Dark violett sandstone. No. So III B 553.
FS. 3 I 4.0/Ca 11.2, H. 18.00 m. Mitra. L.27

9. Worn stone disc.
Ø 4.9 cm Th. 1.4 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 399. FS. 2 IV 2.0/Be 18.0, H. 21.90 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

10. Thick stone disc with roughened surface.
Ø 6.5 cm. Th. 3.2 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 503. FS. 2 IV 0.5/Ca 17.7, H. 22.15 m.
Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19

11. Stone disc with flat top and base; smooth surface.
Ø 3.9 cm. Th. 1.4 cm. Mottled red sandstone.
No. So III B 390. FS. 2 V 2.0/Cc 6.0, H. 22.37 m.
Late Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16

Diverse Stone Objects

1. Flat stone pendant of conical shape with rounded top. Perforation near upper edge.
H. 3.8 cm. Grey slate. No. So III B 708.
FS. 2 IV 7.9/Be 18.0, H. 16.46 m. Maurya. L.35/34

2. Flat stone pendant of conical shape with rounded top. One perforation near the top, a second, vertical hole from the upper edge meeting the perforation channel.
H. 4.0 cm. Th.1.2 cm. Grey-green stone. No. So III B 504.
FS. 3 I 4.0/Ca 17.5, H. 20.35 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

3. Rectangular block of stone with one roughened side. Whetstone?
5.8 × 5.2 × 3.7 cm. Red sandstone. No. So III B 683.
FS. 2 V 8.2/Ca 6.7, H. 18.90–18.75 m. Mitra. L.26

4. Stylus with two pointed ends.
4.2 × 0.75 × 0.4 cm. Grey slate. No. So III B 681.
FS. 2 IV 6.0/Be 16.0, H. 20.48 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

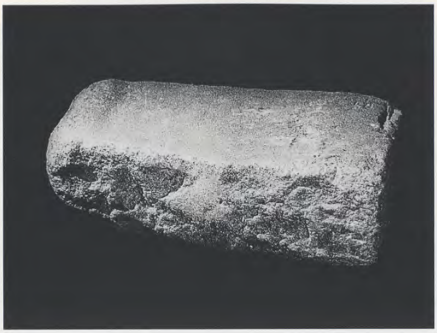
5. Conical stone object with central perforation.
H. 5.5 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 472.
FS. 2 V 17.7/Ca 10.5, H. 21.90 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

6. Small stone object. Head on stand? One-sided. Gamesman?
H. 2.8 cm. B.2.1 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 167.
FS. 2 IV 10.5/Ca 10.5, H. 25.20 m. Medieval. L.12

7. Fragment of a round stand with legs. Rimmed surface decorated with geometrical pattern.
Ø 18.0 cm. Grey sandstone. No. So III B 205.
FS. 2 V 10.3/Ca 15.7, H. 24.85 m. Medieval. L.11

8. Stone bowl with slightly curved rim. Outer and inner sides showing traces of treatment.
Ø 20.4 cm. H. 8.9 cm. Mottled red sandstone. No. So I 63.
FS. 2 IV 14.2/Ca 16.9, H. 26.75 m. Jāṭ. L.4

9. Fragment of a stone bowl decorated with lotus petals overlapping each other on the outer side.
Ø 18.8 cm. H. 9.9 cm. Mottled red sandstone. No. So I 49.
FS. 2 V 8.5/Ca 12.0, H. 28.00–27.70 m. Modern.



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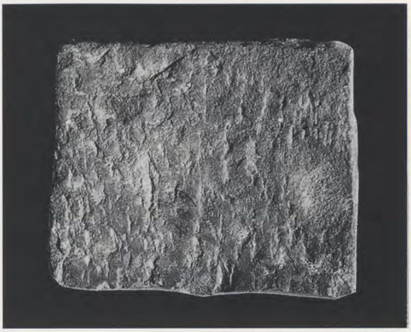

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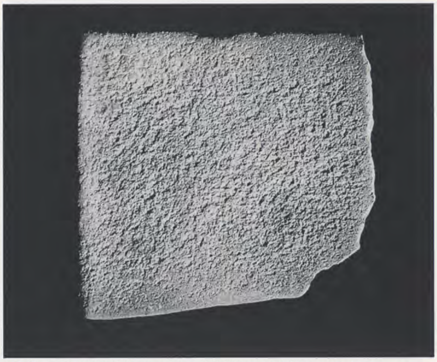

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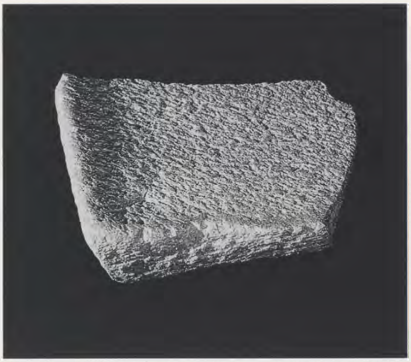

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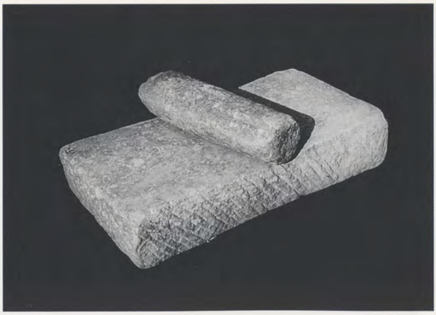

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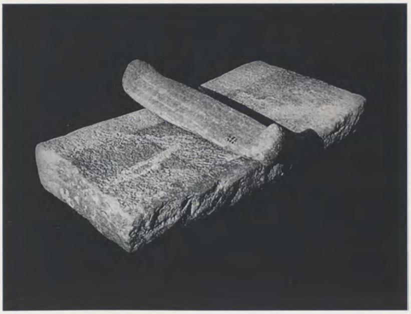

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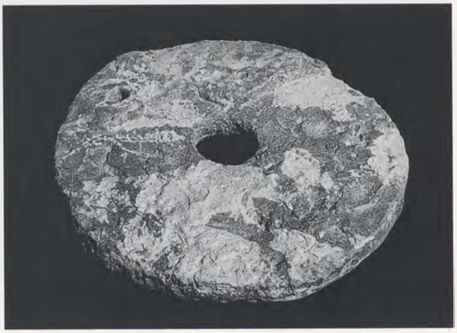
Hand-Mill Stones



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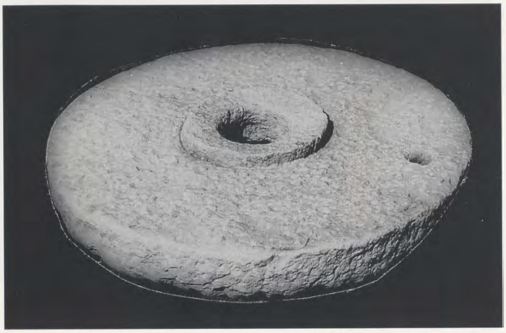

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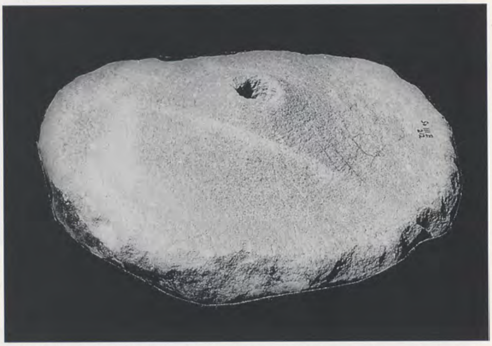

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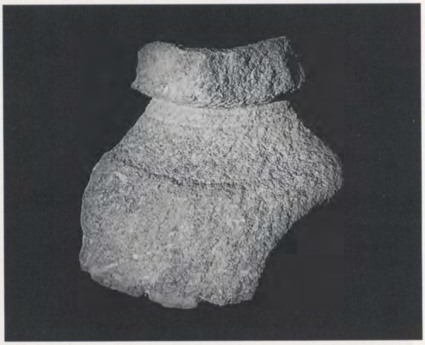

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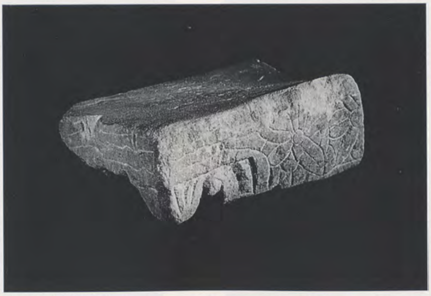

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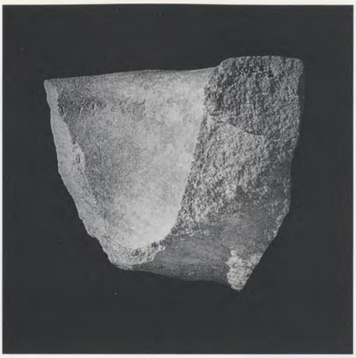

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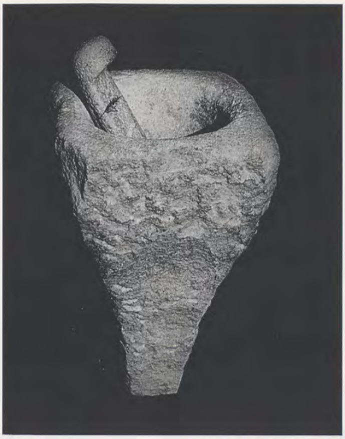

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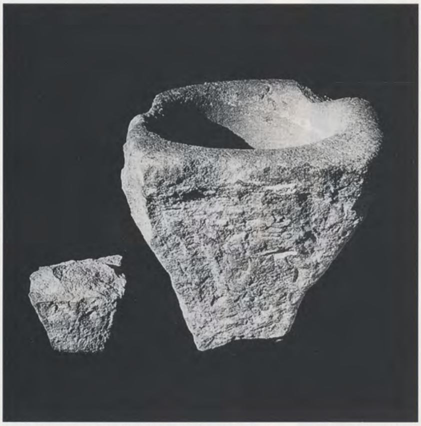

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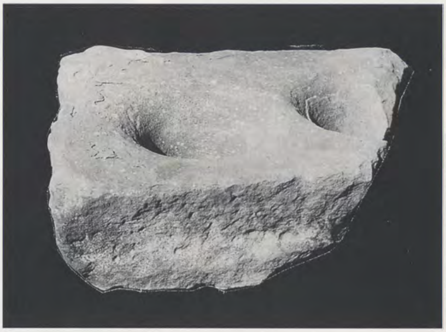

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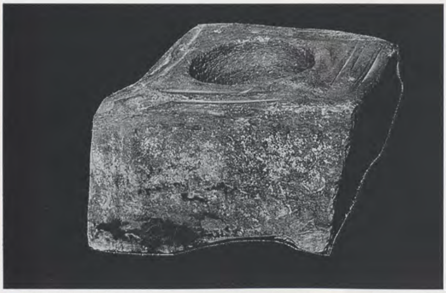

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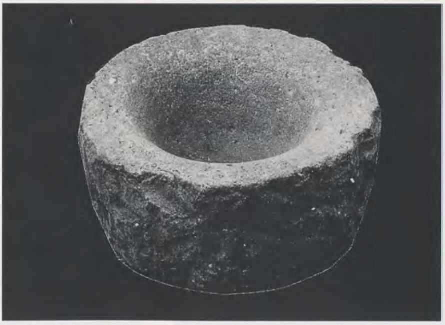

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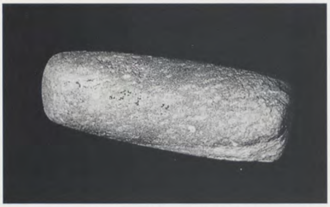
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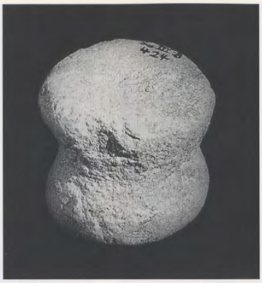
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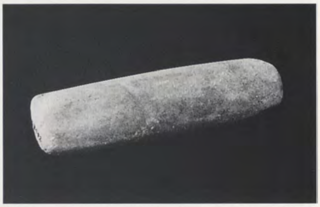
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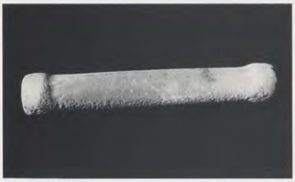
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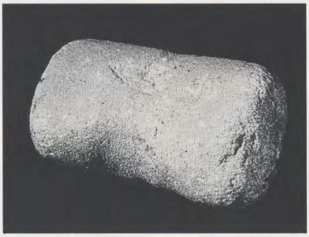
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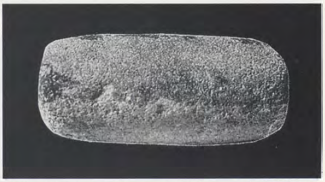
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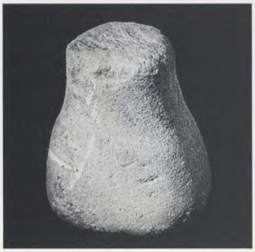
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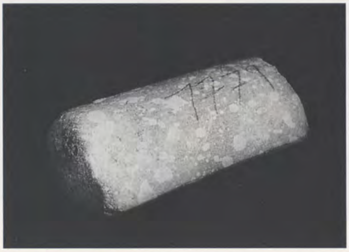
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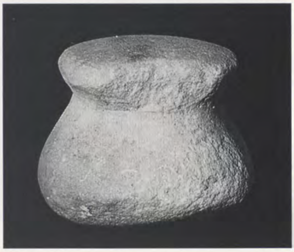
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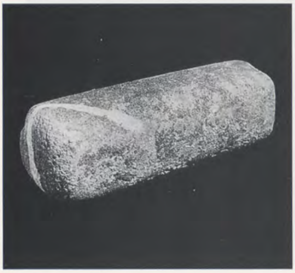
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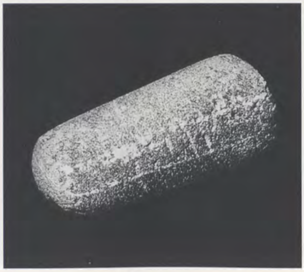
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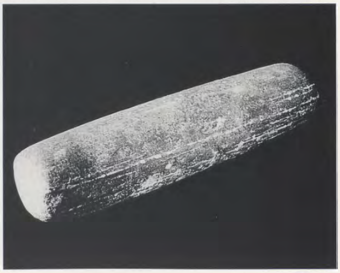
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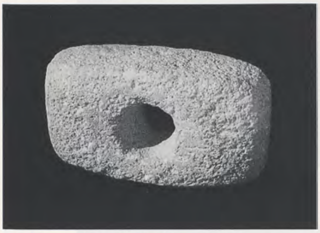
Hand-Mill Stones



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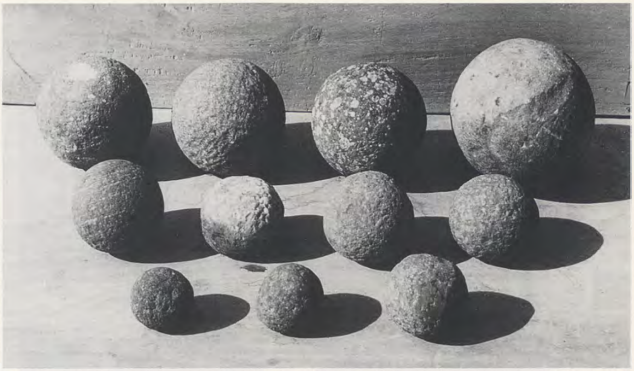

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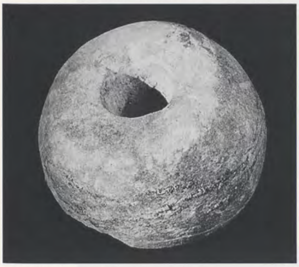

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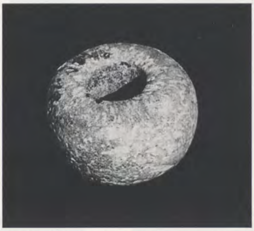

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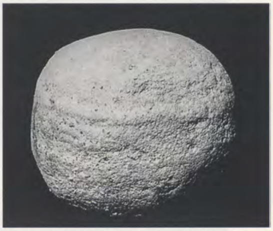

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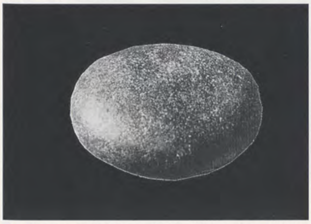

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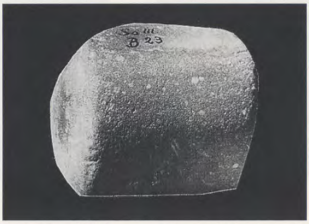

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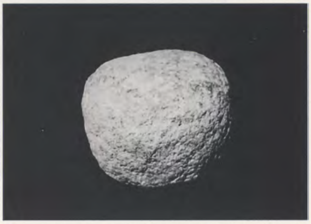

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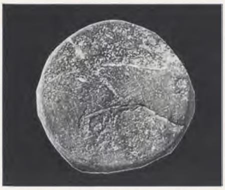

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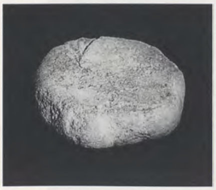

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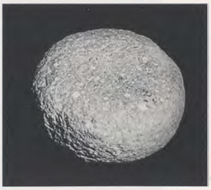

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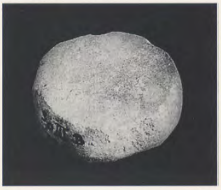

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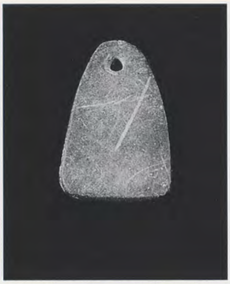
Stone Balls (1); Other Stone Implements (1–11)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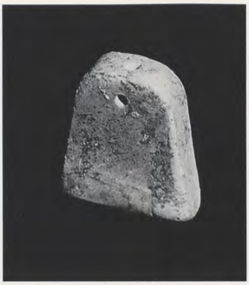
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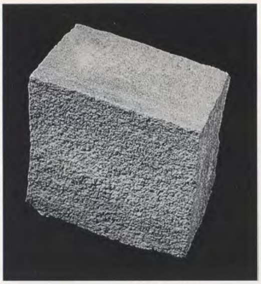
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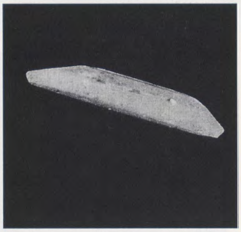
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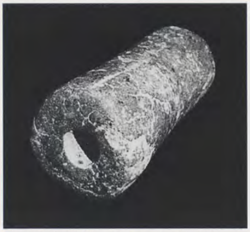
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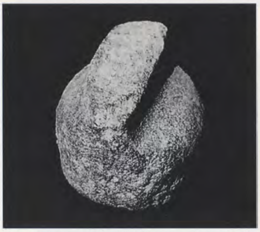
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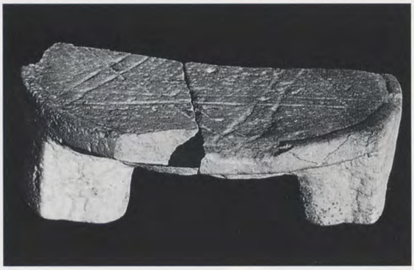
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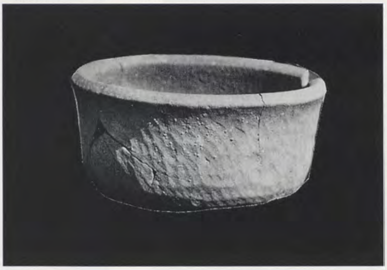
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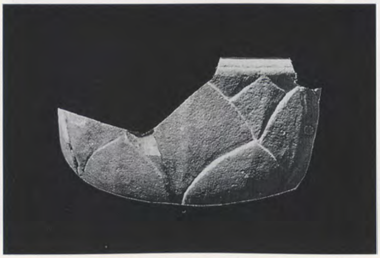
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Diverse Stone Objects

C. OBJECTS OF BONE, SHELL, GLASS AND IVORY

Not less than 774 objects of these materials have been registered as finds from various levels at Sonkh. A large number of them are tiny and insignificant fragments from the latest Period VIII unqualified for studies. Good condition show the objects made of bone among which the group of 203 styli is by far the largest. More fragmentary are the altogether 349 fragments of mostly plain shell bangles so abundantly found in the Mitra and Kuṣāṇa levels. Bangles of glass are astonishingly rare in Sonkh and only present in tiny fragments from the latest levels. Beads of bone, shell, glass and ivory have been discussed in the chapter BEADS. Special attention has to be paid to the group of styli already mentioned. They were recovered from levels 28 to 19, i.e. Mitra to Kuṣāṇa times. The bulk of them measures between 6.0 and 9.0 cms. A selection of specimens will illustrate the types, hereby showing that the early Kuṣāṇa styli seem to be the most carefully made.

Styli

a) Styli of Period III. Levels 28 to 24

1. Two styli from level 28. L. 7.78 and 6.57 cm.
Nos. So III D 901; 883

2. Six roughly made styli from level 27. L. 7.45 to 5.05 cm.
Nos. So III D 999; 975; 1015; 993; 1006; 997; 1003; 1046.

3. Twelve styli of mostly single-pointed type, from level 27. The fourth from right being rather a hair-pin or antimony rod with rounded ends. L. 12.1 to 7.6 cm.
Nos. So III D 876; 1000; 1048; 1049; 947; 1010; 1053; 948; 986; 1005; 996; 949.

4. Seven styli, partly broken, from level 26. L. 11.2 to 5.3 cm.
Nos. So III D 911; 976; 892; 977; 905; 989; 990.

5. Six styli from level 25. L. 11.4 to 5.9 cm.
Nos. So III D 930; 895; 896; 839; 929; 917.

b) Styli of Periods IV–V. Levels 23 to 19

6. Fourteen more carefully carved double-pointed styli from level 23. L. 12.3 to 6.6 cm.
Nos. So III D 970; 877; 894; 959; 893; 885; 942; 941; 878; 909; 936; 934; 887; 944.

7. Seven finely made double-pointed styli. Level 22. L. 8.6 to 5.8 cm.
Nos. So III D 953; 951; 925; 952; 874; 973; 899.

8. Four rough specimens of styli from levels 21/19. L. 10.5 to 6.5.
Nos. So III D 891; 931; 1045; 1028.

Hair-pins

9. Fragment of a broken hair-pin with pinhead. L. 5.2 cm.
No. So I 380. Maurya. L.33

10. Slender, finely shaped undecorated hair-pin (or antimony rod?) with thickened rounded ends. L. 8.7 cm.
No. So III D 828. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

11. Conical shaped hair-pin with top richly decorated by incisions.
L. 8.5 cm. No. So I 174. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

Miscellaneous Bone Objects

12. Fragmentary anthropomorphic figure of bone with incised lines and circlets. A comparison with more complete pieces found at Prabhas Patan and other places makes it obvious that the find from Sonkh represents the lower part of a human, probably female, figure to be supplemented on top by two horizontally arranged arms and a triangular face. Such pieces may have been used as amulets.
H. 5.5 cm. Th.0.3 cm. Bone. No. So I 382.
FS. 2 IV 9.3/Cc 8.8, H. 15.70 m. Maurya. L.33

13. Longish die of bone with number 1 to 4 indicated by incised circles consisting of two concentric orbs with a hole in the centre. At the ends the die is bordered by three incised lines running along the four sides.
Size: 8.65 × 1.9 × 1.9 cm. Bone. No. So I 305.
FS. 2 V 0.5/Cc 7.0, H. 19.60 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

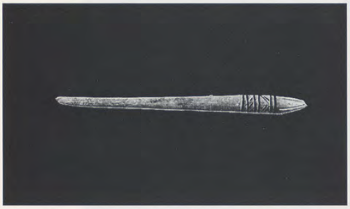
14. Longish die of bone similar to no. 13. The numbers 1 to 4 indicated by incised circles with central hole which itself is encircled by five smaller circles with own hole. At the ends four incised lines with a band of punched circles between the two last border-lines.
Size: 9.4 × 1.6 × 1.7 cm. Bone. No. So I 319.
FS. 2 V 7.4/Cb 17.0, H. 19.50 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

15. Fragment of a conical bone object, inside hollow, outside decorated with seven bands of three incised lines each.
H. 6.5 cm. ⌀ 2.2/1.6 cm. Bone. No. So I 284.
FS. 2 V 8.7/Ca 16.8, H. 19.25 m. Mitra. L.25

16. Bowl of shell with two copper nails on one and a third nail on the opposite side.
7.9 × 7.5 × 2.2 cm. White with brown. No. So I 192.
FS. 3 II 8.2/Ca 13.5, H. 19.20 m. Mitra. L.25

17. Fragment of a shell bangle decorated with horizontally incised lines and two jewel-shaped projections.
Size: 6.4 × 1.4 cm. White shell. No. So III D 965.
FS. 2 IV 6.0/Cb 19.5, H. 22.00 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

18. Small ivory comb with teeth on both sides. 16 teeth missing.
5.8 × 4.6 cm. Colour: yellowish brown. No. So I 54.
FS. 2 V 3.6/Ca 13.25, H. 27.15 m. Jāṭ. L.4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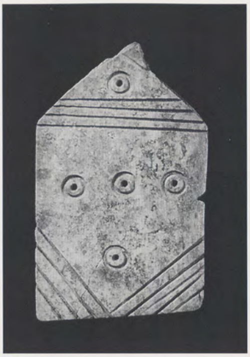
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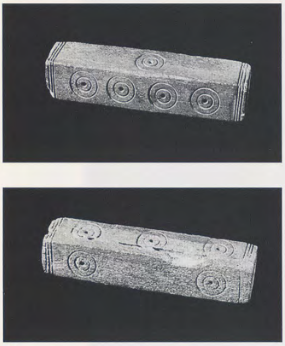
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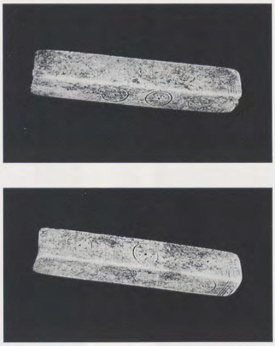
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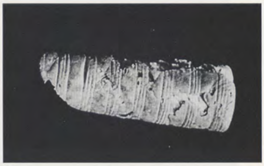
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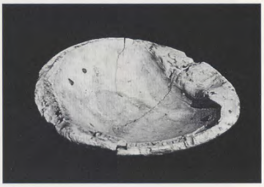
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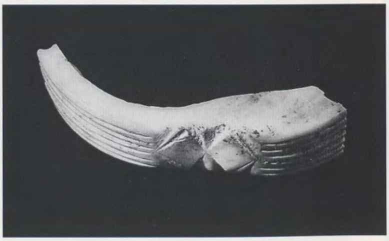
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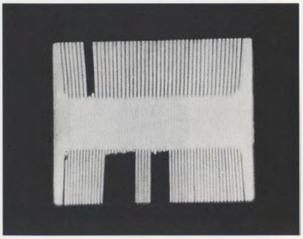

18

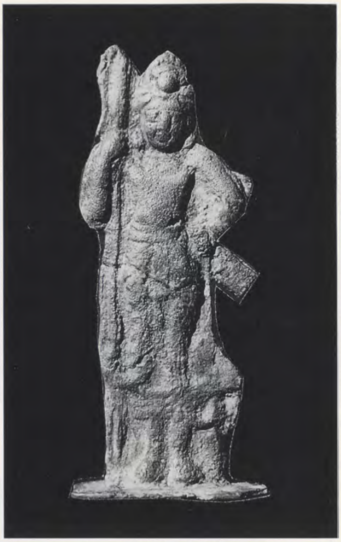
Objects of Bone, Shell and Ivory

D. METAL IMAGES

The art of Mathura, so excessively represented by the works in stone and terracotta, has not handed down so far a single metal image of the Kuṣāṇa or any other period with certainty. There is one little female figure which might be seen as a product of the Mathura School, but it is of unknown findplace and, therefore, not furnishing safe proof for the existence of this branch of art in early Mathura (cp.P.K.Agrawala, 1977, pp.65ff., fig.137, and Czuma/Morris, 1985, pp.104f., fig.38). Fortunately, the Sonkh excavations yielded two small bronze figures which, although no masterly specimens, are to our knowledge the first Mathura metal images found in stratified levels of the Kuṣāṇa period.

1. Standing figure of Skanda. Flatly cast bronze in two pieces joined together. The god stands in frontal posture on a low pedestal with a clean end on the left and a fracture on the right side. With his raised right hand he holds the attribute *śakti* the shaft of which ends in a knob near to the right knee. The straight vertical double line below it is a piece of frame. Skanda's left hand is placed akimbo. He wears a tall diadem with large central jewel, rings in both (?) ears and a one-stringed pearl necklace (*ekāvalī*). The garment is arranged in folds and covers both legs down to the knees, it is kept by a two-stringed girdle, not a waistband, gathered around the hips. The projection on the left hip is therefore not a waistband-knot but presumably the connecting bar towards a further figure broken away now. This hypothesis would be supported by the bar's crude make, by the bulge at the elbow of the left arm which might be one more point of contact with a neighbouring figure (cp. no. 2), and by the fact that the pedestal does not have an end on the right side. In this case the god should be identified as the Skanda of a three-figured Ṣaṣṭhī relief. On the other hand, Skanda holds the *śakti* in his left hand which is only the case when he is accompanied by his favourite bird, the cock. Therefore P. K. Agrawala (1977, p. 63) would like to see a tiny cock on the left hand side.The back of the bronze is hollow.
H. 9.3 cm. Colour: green patina. No. So I 178.
FS. 2 IV 15.5/Ca 8.9, H. 22.40 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

2. Standing divine couple. Flatly cast bronze. The couple stands in frontal posture on a low pedestal within a frame of columns and an architrave made up of double rods. The *toraṇa* impression of this frame is strengthened by S-shaped brackets in the triangle between pillar and lintel on both sides and by a central ornament consisting of a ring below and a tripartite symbol above the beam looking like the separated parts of a *nandyāvarta*.
The figures, joined to each other as well as to the frame by small bars, are those of a man and a woman, the male figure being much taller than the female. The woman, dressed in a short garment, has an animal head with large, round eyes and ears; there is a damaged spot near the mouth. As far as preserved, hair is bristling around the head. Her right arm is bent upwards holding the hand with its palm turned inwards (*vyāvṛtta mudrā*). He raises his right arm and holds the hand up with its palm even more clearly turned inwards than with the woman. In the left suspended hand he carries a bowl. He is dressed in a dhotī, the knotted end of which is visible in folds between the legs. A broad necklace runs from shoulder to shoulder. His hair appears to be piled up high (*jaṭāmukuṭa*) and is decorated with a diadem. He may have been intentionally depicted with only one ear-ring (*ekakuṇḍala*), but it is also possible that the right ear's ornament has been broken off. While the female can be made out as a cat-shaped Mother goddess, the male figure is, for want of specific attributes, difficult to identify. Nevertheless, his appearance by the side of an animal-headed Mother goddess in this relief connects him with great probability with Skanda. The author thinks along the same lines as P. K. Agrawala (1977, p. 64) who comes through the interpretation of the feline figure to the conclusion: "*From the iconographic evidence provided by some contemporary stone plaques from Mathura itself and by certain texts, we have no doubt this goddess is Carcikā-Ṣaṣṭhī, a mother goddess presiding over childbirth and assimilated with Devasenā-Ṣaṣṭhī, the spouse of Skanda*".
H. 10.6 cm, W.8.5 cm. Colour: green patina.
No. So I 173. FS. 2 IV 9.5/Ca 0.10, H. 24.28 m.
Kuṣāṇa. In house C of L.16. Presumably surviving from an earlier Kuṣāṇa level.



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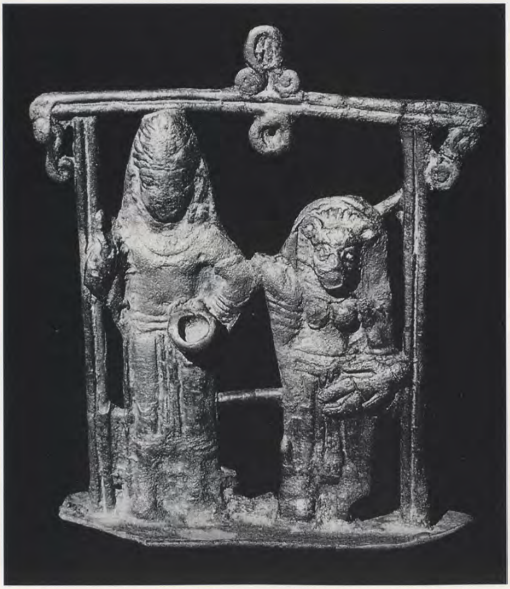


2

Metal Images

E. METAL OBJECTS

In all 571 metal objects have been found. The metals are copper, iron, lead and brass. Those of copper and iron appeared through all the Periods, objects of lead and brass occured from level 27 onwards. The finds comprise weapons, tools, other implements, household and ornamental objects. Beads of metal have been described elsewhere (see chapter BEADS).

A large number of metal objects, esp. those of iron, are either shapeless or indeterminate. But there remains a comparatively large number of finds to be listed here. It seems advisable not to describe weapons, tools etc.collectively but to present the material according to their appearance in the successive Periods. Therein, however, the objects will be grouped subjectwise.

Period I. Objects from Levels 40 to 37

1. Arrow-head, barbed, with socket.
L. 6.3 cm. Iron. So III C 537.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 13.10–12.80 m. PGW

2. Arrow-head, lanceolate, tanged.
L. 4.0 cm. Iron. So III C 55.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 14.95–14.85 m. PGW

3. Arrow-head, barbed, tanged.
L. 7.6 cm. Iron. So III C 321.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 14.85–14.75 m. PGW

4. Fragment in shape of the blade of an adze or axe.
Size: 2.8 × 2.7 cm. Iron. So III C 54.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 15.25–15.15 m. PGW

Period II. Objects from Levels 36 to 29

5. Arrow-head, lanceolate, tang missing.
L. 3.9 cm. Iron. So III C 270.
FS. 3 II/Ca, H. 15.75–15.45 m. Early Maurya. L.35

6. Arrow-head with long barbs, socket(?).
L. 5.5 cm. Iron. So III C 534.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 16.05–15.90 m. Maurya. L.32

7. Triangular flat object.
Size: 7.3 × 4.8 c m. Iron. So III C 98.
FS. 3 II/Ca, H. 16.30–16.00 m. Maurya. L.33

8. Rod.
L. 31.2 cm. Iron. So III C 554.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 14.35–14.20 m. Early Maurya. L.36

9. Fork, seven-pronged.
L. 8.6 cm. Copper. So I 369.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 15.73 m. Maurya. L.33

10. Nail with broad circular head.
L. 9.9 cm. Iron. So III C 93.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 16.85–16.60 m. Maurya. L.32

11. Mutilated bracelet, exterior concave.
Diam. 6.2 cm. H. 1.6 cm. Copper. So I 379.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 15.85 m. Maurya. L.32

Period III. Objects from Levels 28 to 25

12. Arrow-head, barbed, hollow tang.
L. 5.8 cm. Iron. So III C 549.
FS. 2 III/Cc, H. 18.55–18.35 m. Mitra. L.26

13. Arrow-head, lanceolate, solid tang.
L. 5.3 cm. Iron. So III C 247.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 19.20–19.00 m. Mitra. L.26/25

14. Arrow-head, slender, square section.
L. 7.0 cm. Iron. So III C 498.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.95–18.80 m. Mitra. L.25
Note: One more specimen registered as So III C 86

15. Lanceolate object with two lobes at one end.
L. 7.3 cm. Iron. So III C 408.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.35–18.20 m. Mitra. L.27

16. Fragment of a spear-head, tang missing.
L. 13.8 cm. Iron. So III C 430.
FS. 2 IV/Be, H. 19.55 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: 2 more specimens registered under So III C 490; 493.

17. Sickle.
Size: 24.8 × 17.4 cm. Iron. So III C 340.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 18.70 m. Mitra. L.26.
Note: 4 more specimens under So III C 85; 271; 429; 512.

18. Rod.
L. 28.4 cm. Iron. So III C 557.
FS. 2 V/Cc, H. 18.40–18.27 m. Mitra. L.26

19. Brand-iron showing mutilated nandyāvarta symbol.
L. 32.2 cm. H. 13.6 cm. Iron. So III C 156.
FS. 3 I/Cb, H. 18.80 m. Mitra. L.26

20. Coil. *Found together with no. 19.*
L. 13.0 cm. Diam. 5.1 cm. Iron. So III C 157.
FS. 3 I/Cb, H. 18.80 m. Mitra. L.26

21. Buckle, circular, with remnants of bridge and tongue.
Diam. 4.7 cm. Iron. So III C 274.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 18.90–18.70 m. Mitra. L.26

22. Thick nail with broad stubby head.
L. 7.9 cm. Diam. of head 2.8 cm. Iron. So III C 409
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.95–18.70 m. Mitra. L.25

23. Fragment of a nail with broad circular head.
L. 2.4 cm. Diam. of head 2.3 cm. Iron. So III C 120.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 18.55–18.20 m. Mitra. L.27/26

24. Fragment of a nail with broad square hat-like head.
L. 2.6 cm. Diam. of head 2.5 cm. Iron. So III C 121.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 18.55–18.20 m. Mitra. L.27/26

25. Four rectangular hooks (bent nails).
L. 1.9 cm. Copper. So III C 370.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 19.20 m. Mitra. L.25

26. Mutilated big copper pan with handles and thorns.
Diam. ca. 30.0 cm. Copper. So I 124.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 17.20 m. Early Mitra. L.28

27. Toggle, lancet-shaped.
Size: 1.7 × o.3 cm. Copper. So III C 128.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 18.58–19.30 m. Mitra. L.25

28. Two eight-shaped wire objects (parts of chain?).
L. 1.5 cm. W. 0.8 cm. Copper. So III C 356.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 18.76 m. Mitra. L.26

29. Ring.
Diam. 1.8 cm. Iron. So III C 499.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.10–17.94 m. Mitra L.27
Note: 3 more rings registered under So III C 237; 561; 562;

30. Ring, much corroded.
Diam. 2.4 cm. Copper. So III C 464.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 19.45 m. Mitra. L.25

31. Bracelet, much corroded.
Diam. 6.5 cm. H. 2.6 cm. Iron. So III C 189.
FS 3 I/Ca, H. 19.90–19.60 m. Mitra. L.25
Note: One more fragment cp. So III C 482.

32. Antimony rod, deformed, round club ends.
L. 7.7 cm. Brass or copper. So III C 422.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 17.50 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: 3 more specimens registered under So III C 522; 523; 524.

33. Antimony rod, rounded ends, middle part thinner than the ends.
L. 11.2 cm. Copper. So III C 478.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.10 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: 13 more specimens registered under So III C 53; 352; 359; 379; 413; 414; 423; 424; 437; 451; 475; 511; 514.

34 Reel-shaped disc made of coiled strip (ear-stud?).
Diam. 2.8 cm. Lead. So III C 517.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 17.95–17.80 m. Mitra. L.27/26
Note: 3 more fragments registered under So III C 404; 474; 548.

35. Concave disc made of tightly coiled strip (ear-stud?).
Diam. 2.3 cm. H. 1.6 cm. Lead. So III C 381.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 18.10–17.95 m. Mitra. L.26

36. Concave disc made of coiled strip.
Diam. 2.7 cm. Lead. So III C 405.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.60 m. Mitra. L.26
Note: 11 more specimens under So III C 306; 308; 311; 312; 316; 386; 396; 400; 401; 403; 515.

37. Fragment of a bracelet, exterior concave.
Diam. 4.0 cm. Brass. So III C 421.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.00 m. Mitra. L.27

38. Fragment of a bangle.
L. 5.7 cm. Brass. So III C 373.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 18.40–18.10 m. Mitra. L.27
Note: 2 fragments more under So III C 425; 466.

39. Fragment of a wheel with remains of 4 spokes.
Size: 4.0 × 1.8 × 0.4 cm. Copper. So III C 544.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 17.50 m. Mitra. L.27

Period IV. Objects from Levels 24 to 23

40. Long arrow-head, double tanged.
L. 14.7 cm. Iron. So III C 567.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.40–19.00 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23
Note: One more specimen under So III C 566.

41. Arrow-head, lanceolate, short tang.
L. 10.4 cm. Iron. So III C 568.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.40–19.00 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23
Note: One more specimen registered under So III C 222.

42. Arrow-head, barbed, socketted.
L. 4.6 cm. B. 2.5 cm. Iron. So III C 391.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.25–19.10 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

43. Long spear-head, socketted, triangular blade.
L. 34.0 cm. B. 6.3 cm. Iron. So III C 354.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.10 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

44. Knife or dagger, slightly curved.
L. 26.0 cm. Iron. So III C 136.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 19.77–19.47 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

45. Knife or dagger, lanceolate blade, broad tang.
L. 19.0 cm. Iron. So III C 341.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 19.50 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

46. Sickle.
Size: 25.0 × 15.0 cm. Iron. So III C 417.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.30 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23
Note: One more fragment: So III C 336.

47. Rod with globular knob.
L. 29.1 cm. Iron. So III C 91.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 20.35–20.05 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

48. Curved hook-bolt.
L. 6.5 cm. Iron. So III C 313.
FS.2 V/Cb, H. 19.60–18.85 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

49. Nail with broad flat head.
Diam. 2.2 cm. L. 7.5 cm. Copper. So III C 505.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.35–19.15 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

50. Part of a chain or harness.
L. 24.5 cm. Iron. So III C 481.
FS. 2 V/Cc, H. 19.25 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

51. Clamp, flat shield, 2 angular prongs.
Size: 7.7 × 3.0 × 3.1 cm. Iron. So III C 484.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.40 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

52. Tapering rod with hilt of coiled wire.
L. 25.0 cm. Iron. So III C 483.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.40 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

53. Object in the shape of a horse-shoe with 2 braces.
Size: 10.2 × 8.8 × 5.0 cm. Iron. So III C 494.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.20 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

54. Fragment of a harness(?) with small effigy of horse(?)
Size: 15.7 × 11.3 × 2.1 cm. Iron. So III C 564.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.10 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24
Note: Corresponding fragment from same spot under So III C 565.

55. Fragment of a spoon, part of stem missing.
Size: 13.6 × 6.1 c m. Iron. So III C 539.
FS. 2 V/Cc, H. 19.42–19.10 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

56. Small disc.
Diam. 3.0 cm. Lead. So III C 418.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.10 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

57. Ladle.
L. 14.1 cm. W. 4.8 cm. Iron. So III C 551.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 19.55 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

58. Goblet with two bowls. Copper. No. So I 225 a-c.
a) Goblet, carinated, slightly out-curved rim, narrow stem, stepped foot. H. 17.0 cm. Diam. 13.6 cm.
b) Bowl, hemispherical. Diam. 16.0 cm. H. 4.0 cm.
c) Bowl, hemispherical. Diam. 16.0 cm. H. 4.0 cm.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 20.20 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

59. Ornamental object (fragment of handle?).
Size: 3.9 × 2.3 cm. Copper. So III C 324.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 19.50 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

60. Pin(?), rounded ends, same thickness all over.
L. 13.8 cm. Copper. So III C 390.
FS. 2 V/Cc, H. 19.80 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

61. Antimony rod with round club-like ends.
L. 9.9 cm. Copper or brass. So III C 443.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 19.90 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23
Note: 16 more specimens registered under So III C 349; 353; 365; 376; 415; 419; 427; 436; 438; 439; 447; 452; 456; 460; 468; 516.

62. Fragment of bangle, remaining end bears grooved ornaments.
L. 9.7 cm. Brass. So III C 450.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.95 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

63. Fragment of bangle, thin wire.
L. 7.4 cm. Brass. So III C 375.
FS. 3 I/Cb, H. 19.60 m. Late Kṣatrapa. L.23/22
Note: One more fragment: So III C 360.

64. Ring, made of wire with circular cross section; groove indicates where the tapering ends of the wire overlap.
Diam. 2.2 cm. Copper. So III C 116.FS. 2 IV/Be, H. 20.80 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

65. Cog-wheel ring.
Diam. 3.8 cm. Bronze. So III C 325.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.75 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

66. Corroded concave disc made of coiled strip (ear-stud?).
Diam. 2.6 cm. H. 1.7 cm. Lead. So III C 407.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.45–19.15 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23
Note: 2 more fragments under So III C 307; 520.

67. Fragment of a bangle, flat section.
Diam. 9.0 cm. H. 3.7 cm. Iron. So III C 530.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 20.10 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

Period V. Objects from Levels 22 to 16

68. Arrow-head, lanceolate, (presumably) tanged.
L. 6.1 cm. Iron. So III C 225.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 21.75–21.55 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

69. Arrow-head, three-edged, part of tang missing.
L. 6.2 cm. Iron. So III C 305.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 22.14–22.00 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19

70. Arrow-head, lanceolate, very long and slender, tanged.
L. 10.6 cm. Iron. So III C 169.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 22.50–22.20 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19
Note: One more specimen of same type under So III C 272.

71. Arrow-head, triangular, with socket.
L. 10.1 cm. Iron. So III C 242.
FS. 2 V/Cv, H. 23.15–22.85 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17

72. Arrow-head, barbed, with socket,
L. 7.9 cm. Iron. So III C 235.
FS. 2 III/Ca, H. 24.00–23.70 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

73. Arrow-head, barbed, with socket.
L. 8.4 cm. Iron. So III C 52.
FS. 2 III/Cb, H. 23.79–23.50 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

74. Spear-head, lanceolate, tanged.
L. 18.2 cm. Iron. So III C 84.
FS. 2 III/Ca, H. 23.05 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18
Note: 7 more specimens under So III C 51; 72; 103; 145; 172; 218; 420

75. Spear-head with socket.
L. 22.9 cm. Iron. So III C 90.
FS. 2 III/Ca, H. 24.30–24.00 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

76. Fragment of a knife (main part of blade).
L. 10.6 cm. Iron. So III C 495.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 21.75–21.60 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

77. Triangular blade with loop.
L. 8.8 cm Iron. So III C 191.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 21.90–21.60 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

78. Sickle.
Size: 17.3 × 14.5 cm. Iron. So III C 171.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 22.77–22.57 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19/18
Note: 7 more specimens under So III C 33; 34; 35; 59; 63; 329; 411.

79. Long strap.
Size: 33.4 × 4.1 cm. Iron. So III C 477.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 22.55 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17
Note: 6 more fragments of straps: So III C 62; 127; 132; 176; 301; 302

80. Clamp or staple with long prongs.
L. 7.0 cm. W. 6.1 cm. So III C 211.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 23.16–22.86 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17
Note: 2 more specimens with short prongs: So III C 76; 158.

81. Clamp or shackle or fitting, flat section.
Diam. 12.0 cm. H. 6.5 cm. Iron. So III C 117.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 22.24–21.94 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

82. Angular hook.
Size: 4.6 × 2.2 cm. Iron. So III C 179.
FS. 2 V/Cc, H. 20.97–20.64 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21
Note: 6 more such hooks under So III C 109; 115; 180; 335; 398; 406.

83. Tube, one end pronged.
Diam. 2.3 cm. L. 8.4 cm. Iron. So III C 131.
FS. 2 IV/Be, H. 22.50–22.20 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20
Note: 3 more pieces of tube: So III C 112; 230; 258.

84. Part of a snaffle bit. Big loop at one end, short stem, small loop at the other end (resembles a modern beer-bottle opener).
L. 10.8 cm. W. 6.6 cm. Iron. So III C 265.
FS. 2 V/Cc, H. 20.20 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22
Note: one similar object registered under So III C 264.

85. Mounting.
Size: 8.0 × 3.3 cm. Iron. So III C 48.
FS. 2 III/Cb, H. 22.90–22.50 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

86. Irregularly shaped sheet with small hole to left.
Size: 2.1 × 1.9 × 1.2 cm. Copper. So III C 463.
FS. 2 IV/Be, H. 22.37 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

87. Fragment of a ladle (stem partially missing).
Diam. 5.1 cm. H. 4.7 cm. Iron. So III C 503.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 20.55–20.35 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.(23)/22
Note: One more fragment registered under So III C 346.

88. Small bowl-lid with central conical knob.
Diam. 3.5 cm. H. 0.7 cm. Brass. So III C 338.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 21.15 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

89. Rattle bell, globular, loop on top.
Diam. 6.5 cm. H. 5.7 cm. Iron. So III C 416.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 22.30 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

90. Fragment of a cart, very corroded. Axle, bottom, part of left and right railing are still recognisable.
Size: 11.5 × 6.1 × 2.8 cm. Copper. So III C 388.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 20.65 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

91. Thin circular disc with hole near edge.
Diam. 1.5 cm. Copper. So III C 88.
FS. 3 I/Cb, H. 22.47–22.37 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

92. Antimony rod with rounded and thickened ends.
L. 8.8 cm. Copper. So III C 38.
FS 2 IV/Cb, H. 23.43–23.13 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16
Note: 10 more = So III C 27; 347; 351; 364; 374; 435; 440; 459; 471; 473

93. Pin (or antimony rod) with pointed and thickened ends.
L. 16.3 cm. Copper. So III C 26.
FS. 2 III/Ca, H. 23.30–23.00 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19/18
Note: 8 more pins under So III C 30; 31; 37; 358; 366; 367; 369; 457.

94. Ear-pendant, pyriform outline.
Size: 3.1 × 2.3 cm. Iron. So III C 200.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 20.80 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

95. Foot-ring (or shackle?), flat section, with hinge.
Diam. 9.5 cm. H. 5.8 cm. Iron. So III C 202.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 21.87–21.70 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

96. Bangle with one decorated end (intersected).
Diam. 4.7 cm. Copper or brass. So III C 533.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 21.95 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

97. Fragment of a bangle or pin with thick curled end.
L. 4.5 cm. Copper. So III C 472.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 21.81 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

98. Fragment of a bangle with flat-topped club-shaped end.
L. 4.4 cm. Copper. So III C 470.
FS. 2 IV /Cc, H. 21.30 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

99. Ring, flat section, open.
Diam. 2.0 cm. Copper. So III C 23.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 22.90–22.40 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17

100. Ring, plano-convex section, outside decorated with a patterned band coiled like a garland.
Diam. 2.1 cm. Copper. So I 232.
FS. 2 V/Cc, H. 21.10 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

101. Conical object: capstan shaped base, slender cone with spiral groove running up to the point. Ear-stud?
Diam. 2.1 cm. H. 5.2 cm. Brass. So III C 433.
FS. 2 III/Cc, H. 21.35 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

102. Ornamental object: toe-ring or mounting?
L. 7.4 cm. Copper or bronze. So III C 39.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 23.43–23.13 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16

Period VI. Objects from Levels 15 to 12

103. Arrow-head, leaf-shaped, tanged.
L. 10.0 cm. Iron. So III C 146.
FS. 2 III/Cb, H. 24.50–24.20 m. Gupta. L.15/14
Note: 2 more specimens of same type under So III C 226; 298.

104. Arrow-head, leaf-shaped, double tanged(?).
L. 9.1 cm. Iron. So III C 280.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 25.30–24.90 m. Medieval. L.12

105. Rod with one pointed end.
L. 11.1 cm. Iron. So III C 268.
FS. 2 III/Ca, H. 25.10–24.70 m. Late Gupta. L.13

106. Tube, cylindrical.
L. 7.7 cm. Iron. So III C 216.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 24.60–24.25 m. Gupta. L.15

107. Pincers with fragment of ring.
L. 16.0 cm. Iron. So III C 99.
FS. 2 III/Cb, H. 24.75–24.50 m. Gupta. L.14

108. Chisel, rectangular section.
Size: 8.3 × 1.9 cm. Iron. So III C 286.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 23.70–23.40 m. Gupta. L.15

109. Nail with broad square head (hat-shaped).
L. 9.9 cm. Diam. 3.7 cm. Iron. So III C 287.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 24.80–24.55 m. Gupta. L.14/13
Note: 2 more specimens registered under So III C 203; 293.

110. Curved hook, flat.
Size: 3.5 × 1.6 cm. Iron. So III C 208.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 24.10–23.80 m. Gupta. L.15
Note: One more specimen registered under So III C 299.

111. Rectangular hook, square section.
Size: 10.8 × 5.0 cm. Iron. So III C 177.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 24.20–23.90 m. Gupta. L.15/14

112. Double-hook (double talon), with socket.
Size: 9.4 × 3.7 cm. Iron. So III C 233.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 23.70–23.30 m. Gupta. L.15

113. Fragment of a pick-axe(?).
Size: 9.8 × 4.4 cm. Iron. So III C 185.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 24.45–24.15 m. Gupta. L.15

114. Dumbbell-shaped object.
L. 7.5 cm. Iron. So III C 241.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 23.95–23.65 m. Gupta. L.15

115. Part of chain.
L. 37.2 cm. Iron. So III C 284.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 23.80–23.55 m. Gupta. L.15

116. Small dish with bevelled rim, convex bottom.
Diam. 9.15 cm. H. 2.3 cm. So III C 18.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 24.60 m. Late Gupta. L.13

117. Concave neck and flat-topped everted rim of bottle.
Diam. 2.5 cm. Copper or brass. So III C 12.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 24.90–24.60 m. Medieval. L.12

118. Circular knob with central cone, on which a square loop in the shape of an elephant is attached.
H. 3.5 cm. Bronze. So III C 40.
FS. 2 III/Cb, H. 24.25 m. Gupta. L.15

119. Wire, bent into an open circle (bangle?).
Diam. ca. 5.0 cm. Brass. So III C 16
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 25.20–24.70 m. Medieval. L.12

Period VII. Objects from Levels 11 to 8

120. Rod with loop.
L. 15.5 cm. Iron. So III C 106.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 25.60–25.10 m. Medieval. L.10

121. T-shaped nail.
L. 3.7 cm. W. 2.3 cm. Iron. So III C 246.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 25.65–25.40 m. Medieval. L.10

122. Fragment of a chain or snaffle bit.
Size: 5.0 × 4.8 cm. Iron. So III C 212.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 25.30–25.00 m. Medieval. L.11
Note: One more ring found together with no. 122, under So III C 214

123. Small plate, more or less octagonal, circular punch-marks, 7 encircling 1.
Size: 1.4 × 1.3 cm. Brass or copper. So III C 17.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 25.95 m. Late Medieval. L.8/(7)

124. Ring, nearly square section.
Diam. 2.4–2.3 cm. Brass. So III C 8
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 25.25 m. Late Medieval. L.9

Period VIII. Objects from Levels 7 to 1

125. Arrow-head, slender, square section, fragment of tang.
L. 7.8 cm. Iron. So III C 277.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 26.23–25.98 m. Islam. L.7

126. Dagger.
L.23.5 cm. Iron. So III C 220.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 26.70–26.30 m. Islam. L.7

127. Cannon-ball.
Diam. 16.8 cm. Iron. So III C 569.
FS. Stuck in a wall of Level 5.
Note: Six more excactly same specimens under So III C 570.

128. Hairpin-shaped clamp or pincers.
Size: 12.4 × 4.3 cm. Iron. So III C 238.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 26.90 m. Jāṭ. L.4
Note: 2 more fragments under So III C 199; 304.

129. Ring, notched, gilt.
Diam. 3.8 cm. Copper(?), So III C 7.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 26.42 m. Jāṭ. L.6/5

130. Bangle, open.
Diam. 6.3 cm. Iron. So III C 243.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 27.00–26.50 m. Jāṭ. L.6–4

131. Ring with vertically attached ornament, consisting of 2 framed hemispheres and 2 globules in between.
Size: 4.5 × 2.1 × 3.1 cm. Copper. So III C 363.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 27.15 m. Jāṭ. c.L.6

132. Ring, slightly in-curved section.
Diam. 2.4–2.2 cm. Brass. So III C 3.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 26.30–25.80 m. Jāṭ. L.5/4

F. OBJECTS OF GOLD AND SILVER

1. Mutilated thin round gold foil with concentric circles.
Diam. 2.2 cm. Gold. So I 25
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 17.00–16.65 m.
Late Maurya/Śuṅga C.P., L.31/30

2. Small pendant or bead. Thin sheet metal, shaped like a broad pipal leaf.
Size: 1.8 × 1.35 × 0.01 cm. Gold. So I 196.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 20.60 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

3. Ring, triangular section, open, tapering ends.
Diam. 1.8 cm. Gold. So I 48.
FS. Mud-rampart of north-eastern wall. Out of context.

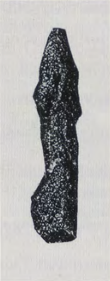
4. Wire, bent in a circle, with hooked ends.
Diam. ca, 4.7 cm. Silver (?). So III C 32.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 24.95 m. Early Medieval. L.12

G. JEWELRY MOULDS

1. Terracotta mould for a decorative pendant.
Size: 4.1 × 3.6 × 1.4 cm. Grey-brown. So I 330.
FS. 2 IV/Be, H. 16.60 m. Early Maurya. L.35/34

2. Fragment of a terracotta mould for a toe-ring(?).
Size: 3.4 × 3.1 × 1.2 cm. Grey-brown. So III A 984.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 22.50–22.20 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

3. Fragment of a stone mould for a necklace.
Size: 5.1 × 4.3 × 1.2 cm. Violet-brown. So I 9.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 24.50 m. Medieval. L.11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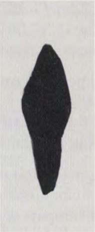
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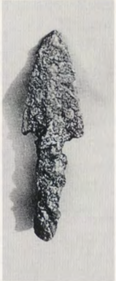
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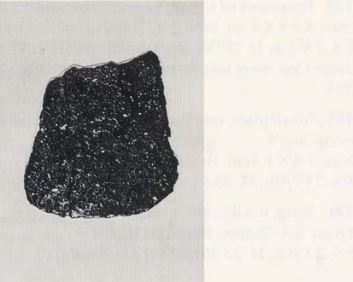
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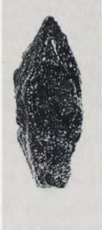
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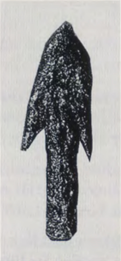
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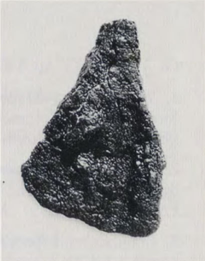
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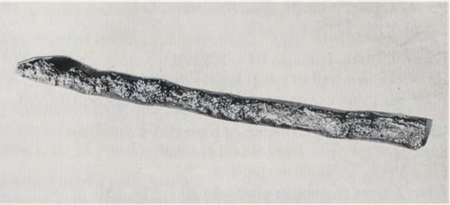
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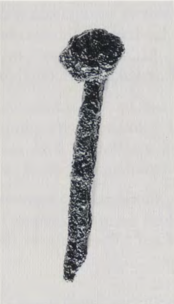
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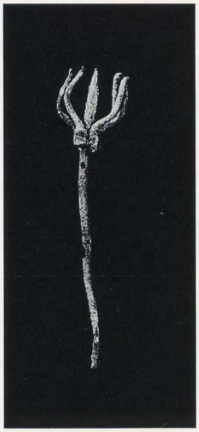
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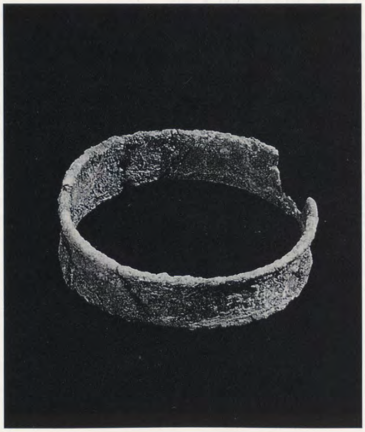
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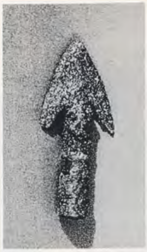
Metal Objects. Period I (1–4); Period II (5–11)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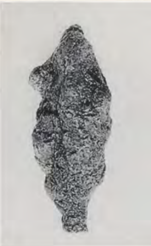
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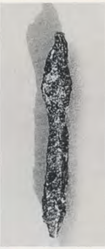
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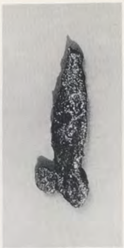
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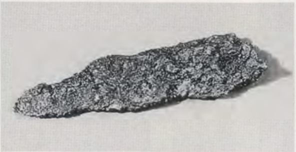
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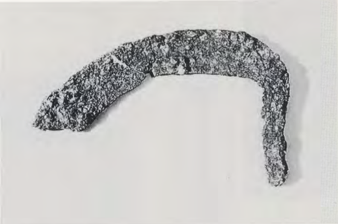
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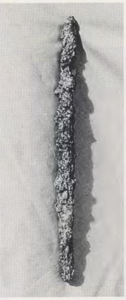
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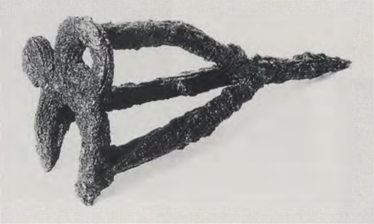
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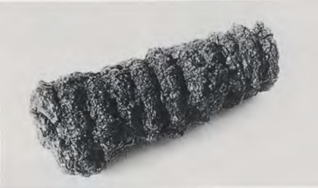
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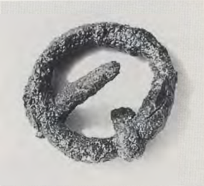
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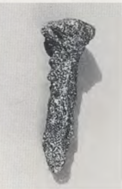
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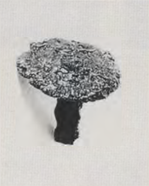
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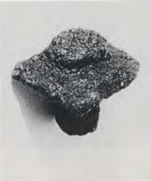
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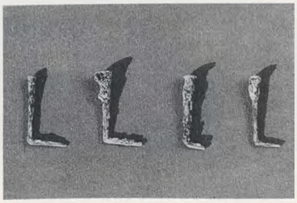
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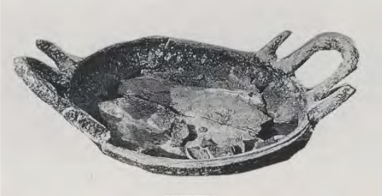
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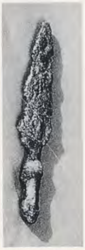
Metal Objects. Period III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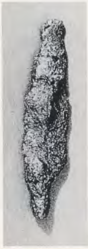
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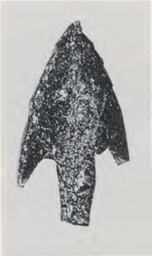
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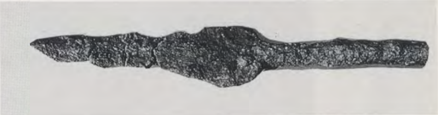
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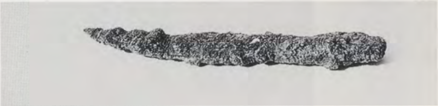
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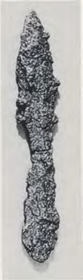
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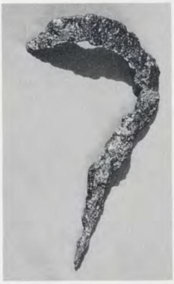
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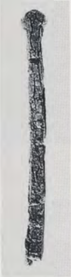
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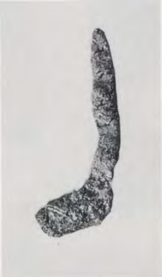
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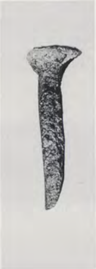
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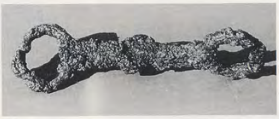
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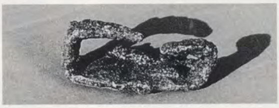
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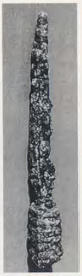
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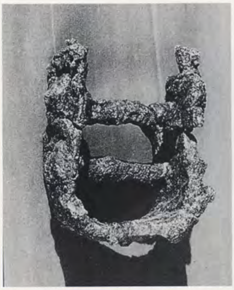
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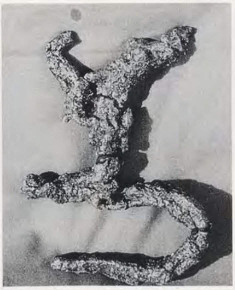
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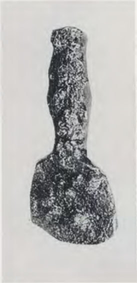
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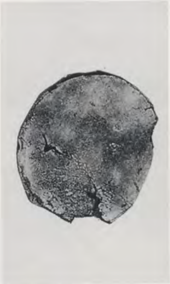
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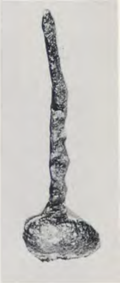
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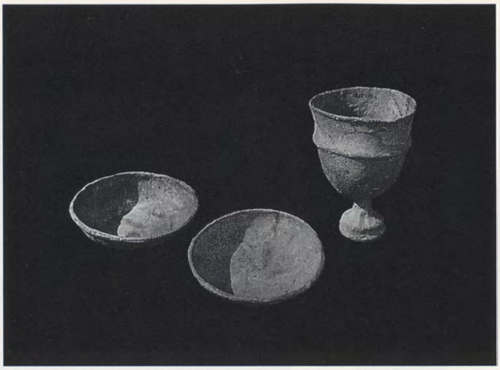

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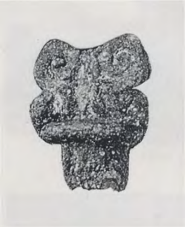

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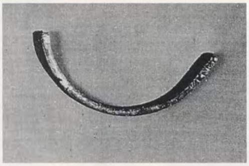

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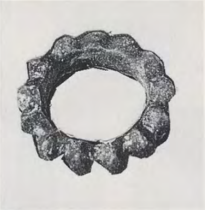

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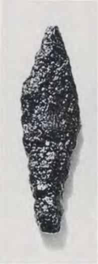
Metal Objects. Period IV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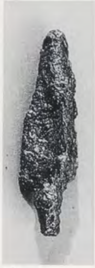
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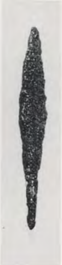
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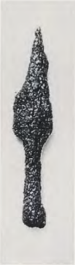
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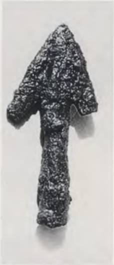
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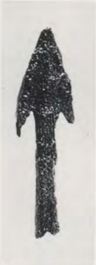
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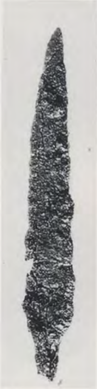
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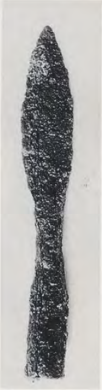
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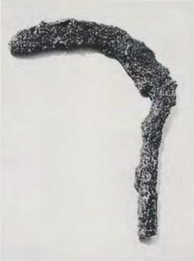
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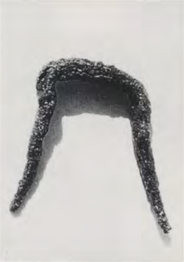
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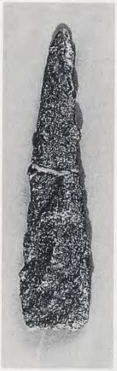
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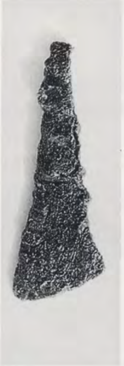
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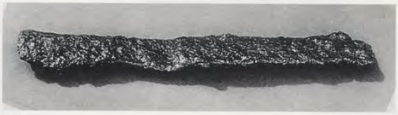
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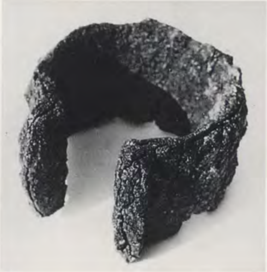
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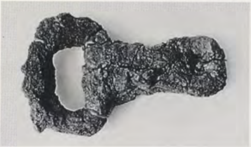
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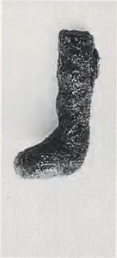
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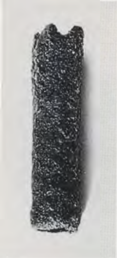
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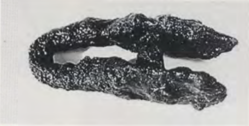
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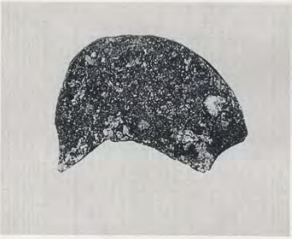
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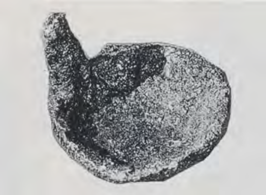
Metal Objects. Period V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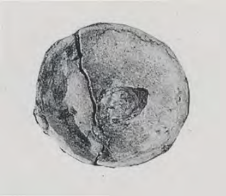
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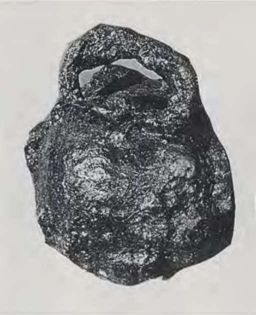
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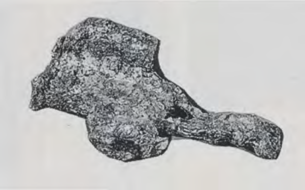
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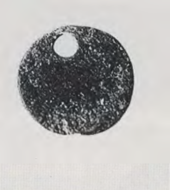
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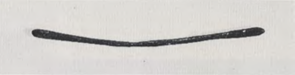
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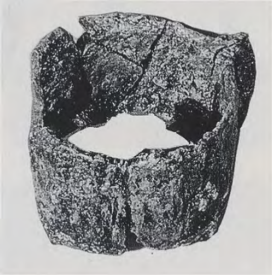
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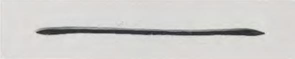
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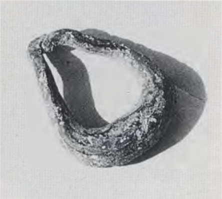
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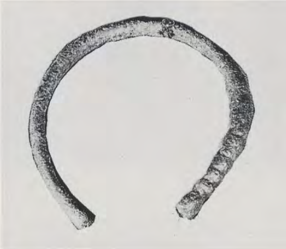
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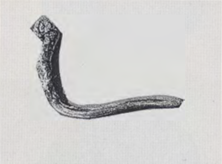
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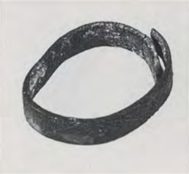
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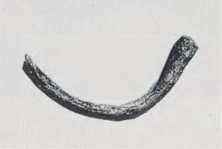
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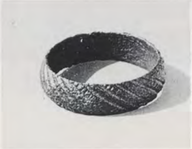
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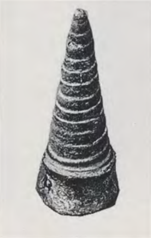
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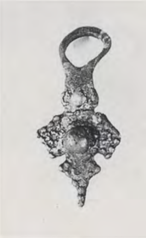
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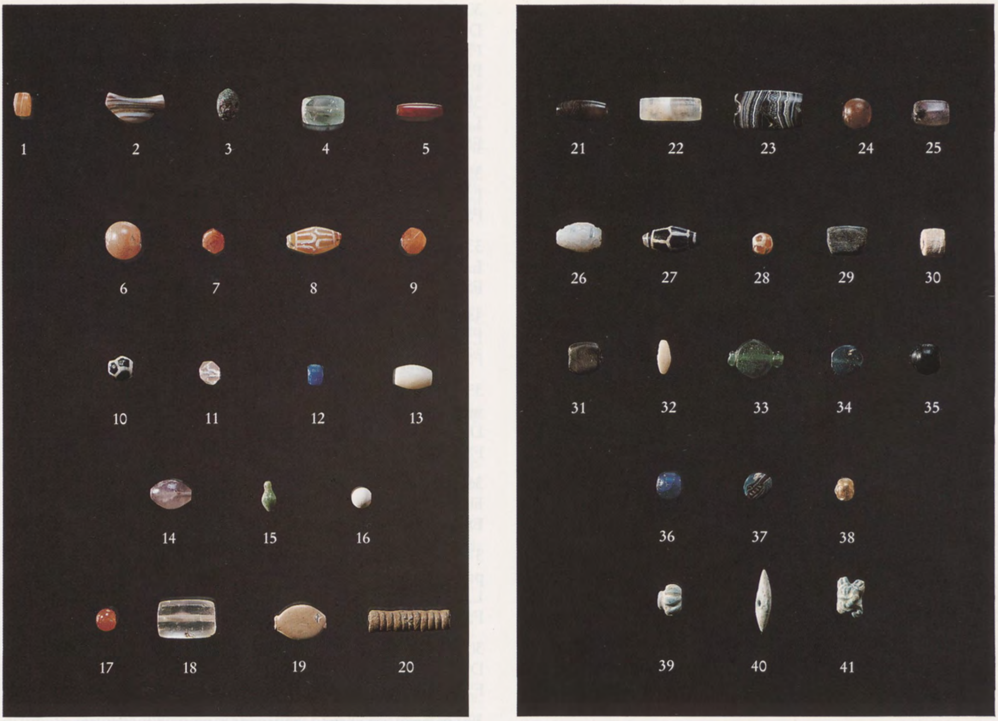
Metal Objects. Period V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Beads. Periods I–IV (1–20); Period V (21–41)

13. Shell, long barrel circular, white.
Diam. 0.8 cm. L. 1.3 cm. So III E 525.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 16.60 m. Śuṅga C.P., L.31

14. Amethyst, long barrel oval, violet.
Diam. 0.9 cm. L. 1.3 cm. So I 31.
FS. 3 I/Ca, H. 17.50 m. Early Mitra. L.28

15. Glass, small spindle pendant, green.
Diam. 0.47 cm. H. 1.0 cm. So III E 709.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.18–17.90 m. Mitra. L.27

16. White Quartz, spherical, milky.
Diam. 0.7 cm. So III E 543.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.55–19.40 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24

17. Carnelian, short barrel circular, orange.
Diam. 0.55 cm. L. 0.45 cm. So III E 615.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 20.92–20.78 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

18. Rock crystal, prism plano-convex hexagonal.
Diam. 1.2 cm. L. 1.75 cm. So III E 616.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.50 m. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

19. Shell, flat oval with protruding ends, light brown.
L. 1.7 cm. So III E 503.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 20.00–19.75 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

20. Terracotta, long segmented cylinder (10 grooves) elliptical, grey-brown.
Diam. 0.5–0.7 cm. L. 2.7 cm. So III E 572.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 20.17–19.78 m. Kṣatrapa. L.23

21. Agate, long barrel oval, grey-brown striated.
Diam. 0.67 cm. L. 1.65 cm. So III E 187.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 22.00–21.70 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19

22. Agate, long barrel circular, transparent with milky layers.
Diam. 0.75 cm. L.2.0 cm. So III E 648.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 20.85–20.65 m. Ditch from L.19. Kuṣāṇa.

23. Agate, long barrel elliptical, black, white and blue.
L.2.24 cm. W. 1.35 cm. So III E 379.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 21.08–20.80 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

24. Carnelian, spherical, dark orange.
Diam. 1.0 cm. So III E 627.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 21.48–21.33 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

25. Amethyst, long barrel pentagonal with excentric channel, violet.
Diam. 0.8 cm. L. 1.15 cm. So III E 359.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 21.10–20.85 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

26. White Quartz, long barrel elliptical, rudimentary rims, incised cross-hatch pattern, blue-green residues, milky.
Diam. 1.0 cm. L. 1.5 cm. So III E 623.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 21.42–21.25 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

27. Black agate, long barrel circular, white etched ornament.
Diam. 0.8 cm. L. 1.9 cm. So III E 341.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 20.30–20.10 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.22

28. Carnelian, spherical, white etched pattern on orange.
Diam. 0.7 cm. So III E 495.
FS. 3 I/Cb, H. 21.10–20.70 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

29. Lapis lazuli, truncated pyramid square.
Diam. 1.2 cm. L. 1.3 cm. So III E 562.
FS. 2 III/Cb, H. 21.70–21.50 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

30. Shell, short cylinder, corroded, grey-brown.
Diam. 0.92 cm. L. 0.74 cm. So III E 467.
FS. Diam. 0.92 cm. L. 0.74 cm. So III E 467.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 20.85–20.55 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

31. Shell, rectangular flat, rounded, dark grey.
L. 1.1 cm. W. 0.9 cm. So III E 212.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 23.63–23.38 m. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16

32. Shell, toggle, white.
L. 1.1 cm. Diam. 1.2–0.35 cm. So III E 459.
FS. 2 V/Cc, H. 22.20–21.90 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

33. Glass, circular flat, thick rims, green.
L. 1.8 cm. W. 1.3 cm. So III E 307.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 21.32–20.95 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

34. Glass, circular lenticular, blue-green.
L. 0.95 cm. So III E 327.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 21.65–21.50 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

35. Glass, barrel circular, one rudimentary rim, curled black with white stripes.
Diam. 1.05 cm. So III E 305.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 21.76–21.51 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

36. Glass, globular, blue.
Diam. 0.9 cm. So III E 326.
FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 21.55–21.30 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

37. Glass, circular flat, blue-green with red-white-black wavy pattern (Millefiori glass).
L. 0.9 cm. D. 0.25 cm. So III E 281.
FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 22.52–22.22 m . Kuṣāṇa. L.18

38. Glass, oblate, low rims, gilt surface, yellowish, striated.
Diam. 0.7 cm L. 0.6 cm. So III E 338.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 22.05–21.45 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.19/18.

39. Faience, jar-shaped, gadrooned, whitish turquoise.
Diam. 1.0 cm. L. 0.77 cm. So III E 357.
FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 19.90–19.60 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.23/22

40. Faience, awl-shaped toggle, turquoise.
L. 2.04 cm. W. 0.5 cm. D. 0.3 cm. So III E 528.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 20.95 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

41. Faience, animal's head, light blue-green.
L. 0.95 cm. W. 1.3 cm. D. 0.8 cm. So III E 621.
FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 21.55–21.40 m. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

K. COINS

292 coins were obtained from the main area of excavation out of which 25 are defaced. All the others are in a sufficient state of preservation to permit identification, either by their mintage or by safe stratification. 131 specimens are described and illustrated, 136 more have been allotted to their types in additional notes.

Period I (PGW-Levels) did not yield any coin. The levels of Period II provided uninscribed cast and die-struck coins as well as silver and copper punch-marked varieties. A small hord of 42 copper punch-marked coins has already been expertly published by Dr. P. L. Gupta, as mentioned below.

Of special importance are four coins found in level 28, the level of transition from Period II to III. Two of these coins are uninscribed types with the Ujjain symbol on its reverse (nos. 52–53), while the other two are the first inscribed specimens in the excavation, issued by Gomitra of Mathura (nos. 54–55). These are followed by the standard type coins of Sūryamitra in levels 27 to 26 (nos. 56–60d) which were also the find-levels of a further group of interesting specimens of (inscribed) copper coins: i.e. ten extremely small coins unearthed in 2 IV/Cc and 2 V/Ca, Cb. Five of them (nos. 63a; 65a–d) are too much corroded for direct identification; the other five (nos. 61–65) show at least traces of mintage although one side is, with one exception, either worn or split off. The stratification of these ten coins is unusually clear and beyond doubt. All these specimens are 1/8 Kasharpanas of the time of Sūryamitra of Mathura. The impressions are different, there seem to exist at least two types. One shows obviously Lakṣmī standing facing, the second is rather remarkable: proven by no. 61, the Gaja-Lakṣmī motive, so well known from the reverse of Kṣatrapa coins, appears here on the obverse while the reverse shows a horse to *right*, i.e. the other way about than in the early Kṣatrapa types. This group of small coins was followed in Levels 26 and 25 by coins of Brahmamitra and Viṣṇumitra of Mathura (nos. 66–72).

From the levels of Period IV coins of the Kṣatrapas Hagāmaṣa, Rājuvula and Śoḍāsa were obtained side by side with issues of Rāmadatta (nos. 73–81).

The largest number of coins came from Period V (Kuṣāṇas). In addition to single specimens a jar has been found in house C of level 16, containing 120 copper coins, the bulk of them being issues of Vāsudeva I and his successors. During the first campaigns of excavation the coins found till then had been handed over to Dr.A.K.Srivastava, the then Numismatic Officer in the State Museum Lucknow, who gave a first interpretation. After the close of the excavation photographs of the whole find of Kuṣāṇa coins were given to Prof.Dr.Robert Göbl, Vienna, who was at that time preparing his comprehensive documentation of all Kuṣāṇa coins available so far. He used all but a few of the Sonkh specimens in his outstanding work "System und Chronologie der Münzprägung des Kushanreiches", Wien 1984, referred to in the description of the selected group of these coins below.

Period VI and VII/VIII yielded Muslim coins from the Turks to Aurangzeb (nos. 109–131), so kindly identified by Dr. A. K. Srivastava, as mentioned below.

Periods II to III. Coins from Levels 34 to 25

a) Earliest Uninscribed Copper Coins

1. *Obv.*: Crescent-on-hill, consisting of three arches in two tiers. Pellet on l.(?).
   Rev.: Tree with ovate lanceolate leaves within railing.
   Size 1.30 × 1.16 × 0.25 cm. Wt. 1.222 gm. Shape: square
   No. So I 27. FS.3 I/Ca, H. 16.10–15.50 m. Maurya. L.34/33

2. *Obv.*: Crescent-on-hill, consisting of three arches in two tiers. Pellet on r.
   Rev.: Tree with lanceolate leaves within railing.
   Size 1.22 × 1.18 × 0.42 cm. Wt. 2.938 gm. Shape: square.
   No. So III H 33. FS.3 II/Ca, H. 16.30 m. Maurya. L.33

3. *Obv.*: Crescent-on-hill, lower left arch partly broken off. Pellet on r.(?).
   Rev.: Tree in railing.
   Size 1.41 × 1.40 × 0.23 cm. Wt. 1.137 gm. Shape: square.
   No. So I 98. FS.2 I/Bd, H. 18.95 m. Late Maurya/Early Śuṅga C.P., L.32

4. *Obv.*: Lion l. before Indradhvaja symbol on l.
   Rev.: Blank.
   Size 1.50 × 1.66 × 0.32 cm. Wt. 4.589 gm. Shape: square.
   No. So III H 248. FS.2 IV/Cc 8.6, H. 15.95 m. Early Śuṅga C.P. L.32

5. *Obv.*: Lion (?) l. before Indradhvaja symbol on l. (cp. BMC: 237 f.).
   Rev.: Blank
   Size 1.16 × 1.84 × 0.25 cm. Wt. 2.962 gm. Shape: rectangular.
   No. So III H 255. FS. 2 IV/Cc, H. 16.02 m. Early Śuṅga C.P., L.32

6. *Obv.*: Lion l. before Indradhvaja on l.
   Rev.: Plain.
   Size: 1.70 × 1.44 × 0.24 cm. Wt. 2.764 gm. Shape: square.
   No. So III H 204. FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.85 m. Found in Mitra-L.25.

b) Punch-marked Copper Coins

In Square 3 II 2.0/Ca 18.1, a common bowl containing 42 copper punch-marked coins has been found at the height of 16.30 m, i.e. the early Śuṅga C.P. level 31. These coins (find nos. So III H 256–297) had been forwarded by the excavator to Dr. P. L. Gupta, the eminent Indian numismatist, for further studies. Dr. Gupta published the find under the title "Copper Punch-marked Coins from Sonkh" in JNSI, vol. XXXVII, 1975, pp. 1–12. As the photographs in the publication are partly overexposed they are printed here once more. For the historical interpretation and detailed description see Dr. Gupta's instructive contribution. For the purpose at hand the obverse and reverse situation as well as size and weight is repeated here. In the context of this publication the 42 coins are, consequently, listed as nos. 7 to 48.

7. (PLG.01) *Obv.*: Sun. *Rev.*: Blank.
   Size: 1.86 × 1.55 × 0.28 cm. Weight: 4.4920 gm.

8. (PLG.02) *Obv.*: Sun. *Rev.*: Blank.
   Size: 1.78 × 1.63 × 0.37 cm. Weight: 6.8674 gm.

9. (PLG.03) *Obv.*: Sun. *Rev.*: Blank.
   Size: 2.08 × 1.66 × 0.37 cm. Weight: 5.7904 gm.

10. (PLG.04) *Obv.*: Sun; six-armed symbol. *Rev.*: Lion.
    Size: 1.58 × 1.46 × 0.34 cm. Weight: 4.9722 gm.

11. (PLG.05) *Obv.*: Sun; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
    Size: 1.73 × 1.72 × 0.31 cm. Weight: 5.5500 gm.

12. (PLG.06) *Obv.*: Sun; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
    Size: 1.69 × 1.67 cm. Weight: 5.4162 gm.

13. (PLG.07) *Obv.*: Sun; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
    Size: 1.70 × 1.60 × 0.35 cm. Weight: 6.0932 gm.

14. (PLG.08) *Obv.*: Sun; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
    Size: 1.63 × 1.64 × 0.28 cm. Weight: 5.0742 gm.

15. (PLG.09) *Obv.*: Sun; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Sun(?).
Size: 1.58 × 1.60 × 0.39 cm. Weight: 5.6428 gm.

16. (PLG.10) *Obv.*: Sun; tree in railing, without leaves. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.54 × 1.62 × 0.30 cm. Weight: 4.6148 gm.

17. (PLG.11) *Obv.*: Sun; dot with four crescents. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.84 × 1.66 × 0.40 cm. Weight: 6.6964 gm.

18. (PLG.12) *Obv.*: Sun; dot with four crescents. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.69 × 1.61 × 0.35 cm. Weight: 4.6769 gm.

19. (PLG.13) *Obv.*: Sun; dot with four crescents. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.65 × 1.51 cm. Weight: 4.6748 gm.

20. (PLG.14) *Obv.*: Sun; dot with four crescents. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.64 × 1.46 cm. Weight: 5.3554 grms.

21. (PLG.15) *Obv.*: Sun; dot with four crescents. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.78 × 1.66 × 0.31 cm. Weight: 5.4616 gm.

22. (PLG.16) *Obv.*: Sun; dot with four crescents. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.68 × 1.62 × 0.36 cm. Weight: 5.6810 gm.

23. (PLG.17) *Obv.*: Sun; dot with four crescents. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.83 × 1.64 × 0.35 cm. Weight: 5.5170 gm.

24. (PLG.18) *Obv.*: Sun; dot with four crescents. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.86 × 1.46 × 0.26 cm. Weight: 4.1728 gm.

25. (PLG.19) *Obv.*: Sun; (?) . *Rev.*: Corroded.
Size: 1.61 × 1.68 × 0.40 cm. Weight: 4.9702 gm.

26. (PLG.20) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.74 × 1.57 cm. Weight: 5.0446 gm.

27. (PLG.21) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.79 × 1.54 cm. Weight: 5.4221 gm.

28. (PLG.22) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.69 × 1.60 cm. Weight: 4.6134 gm.

29. (PLG.23) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.73 × 1.55 × 0.37 cm. Weight: 5.6430 gm.

30. (PLG.24) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.67 × 1.58 × 0.36 cm. Weight: 6.8024 gm.

31. (PLG.25) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.81 × 1.64 cm. Weight: 5.2278 gm.

32. (PLG.26) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.69 × 1.53 × 0.34 cm. Weight: 4.9660 gm.

33. (PLG.27) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.83 × 1.63 × 0.32 cm. Weight: 5.8414 gm.

34. (PLG.28) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.77 × 1.66 × 0.41 cm. Weight: 5.6060 gm.

35. (PLG.29) *Obv.*: with four crescents; crescent-on-hill. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.80 × 1.61 × 0.30 cm. Weight: 5.7974 gm.

36. (PLG.30) *Obv.*: Dot with four crescents; crescent-on-hill.
Rev.: One, not clear.
Size: 1.75 × 1.77 × 0.29 cm. Weight: 5.4409 gm.

37. (PLG.31) *Obv.*: Dot with four crescents; crescent-on-hill.
Rev.: Indistinct incuse
Size: 1.68 × 1.57 × 0.33 cm. Weight: 5.1128 gm.

38. (PLG.32) *Obv.*: Dot with four crescents;tree in railing,with leaves. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.81 × 1.59 × 0.28 cm. Weight: 4.3220 gm.

39.(PLG.33) *Obv.*: Dot with four crescents; (?). *Rev.*: Blank
Size: 1.71 × 1.52 × 0.27 cm. Weight: 4.2008 gm.

40.(PLG.34) *Obv.*: Dot with four crescents; (?) . *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.69 × 1.68 × 0.40 cm. Weight: 6.2440 gm.

41.(PLG.35) *Obv.*: Dot with four crescents; (?) . *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.61 × 1.68 × 0.37 cm. Weight: 5.2674 gm.

42.(PLG.36) *Obv*. Dot with four crescents; (?). *Rev.*:Crescent-on-hill.
Size: 1.74 × 1.57 cm. Weight: 4.8422 gm.

43.(PLG.37) *Obv*. Dot with four crescents; (?) . *Rev.*: One
Size: 1.59 × 1.58 × 0.38 cm. Weight: 5.8458 gm.

44.(PLG.38) *Obv*. Scratches of symbol. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.55 × 1.71 × 0.32 cm. Weight: 5.2140 gm.

45.(PLG.39) *Obv.*:One indistinct symbol. *Rev.*: One indistinct symbol.
Size: 1.75 × 1.70 × 0.32 cm. Weight: 6.0654 gm.

46.(PLG.40) *Obv.*: Blank. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.87 × 1.56 × 0.33 cm. Weight: 5.3924 gm.

47.(PLG.41) *Obv.*: Blank. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.73 × 1.60 × 0.33 cm. Weight: 4.7830 gm.

48.(PLG.42) *Obv.*: Blank. *Rev.*: Blank.
Size: 1.70 × 1.63 × 0.34 cm. Weight: 6.1430 gm.

c) Punch-marked Silver Coins

49. *Obv.*: Sun; six-armed symbol; crescent-on-hill; 2 indistinct symbols.
Rev.: half, round reverse-mark (P. L. Gupta 1985: no. 473?).
Size 1.21 × 1.10 × 0.25 cm. Wt. 1.966 gm. Shape: rectangular
No. So I 99. FS. Trench 4, H. 18.80 m. In pit of ashes, ca L.32

50. *Obv.*: Sun; six-armed symbol; (?); caduceus(?); cross with central depression.
Rev.: Reverse-mark similar caduceus but without middle staff.
Size 1.25 × 1.26 × 0.26 cm. Wt: 2.172 gm. Shape: rectangular.
No. So III H 206. FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 1842 m. Found in Mitra-L.27/26

51. *Obv.*: Sun; six-armed symbol; three indistinct symbols.
Rev.: Reverse-mark: three armed windwheel (P. L. Gupta 1985: no. 140).
Size 1.63 × 1.17 × 0.25 cm. Wt: 3.136 gm. Shape: rectangular.
No. So III H 205. FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.95 m. Found in Mitra-L.25

d) Uninscribed Copper Coins

52. *Obv.*: Human figure standing facing before bull to left.
Rev.: Three circles as in Ujjain symbol but with central dot and without(?) linking rods.

115. Æ. Suris. Sher Shah. Shergarh Fort. Date 950.
Legend = DMC 1151
Size 2.23–2.30 × 0.60 cm. Wt: 19.820 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 15. FS. 2 III/Ca, H. 25.85 m.

116. Æ. Suris. Sher Shah. Shergarh Delhi. Date 950.
Legend = DMC 1167
Size 2.31–2.33 × 0.64 cm. Wt: 19.528 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 3. FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 25.70 m.

117. Æ. Suris. Sher Shah. Narnol. Date 950.
Legend = DMC no. 1202.
Size 2.25–2.28 × 0.66 cm. Wt: 19.412 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 4. FS. 2 V/Ca, H. 26.11 m.

118. Æ. Suris. Sher Shah. Narnol. Date:(9)51.
Legend = DMC no. 1206
Size 2.30–2.36 × 0.60 cm. Wt: 20.998 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 16. FS. 2 IV/Ca, 24.85 m.

119. Æ. Suris. Islam Shah. Mint/Date –.
Legend = DMC no. 1428. 1/8 paisa.
Size 1.19–1.22 × 0.28 cm. Wt: 2.273 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 19. FS. 2 III/Cb, H. 24.10 m.

120. Æ. Mughal. Akbar. Agra, Darul-khilafat. Date 970.
Legend = LMC no. 855.
Size 2.11–2.25 × 0.70 cm. Wt: 19.322 gm. Shape: circular
No. So III H 23. FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 24.05 m.

121. Æ. Mughal. Akbar. Narnol. Date 985.
Legend = LMC no. 1128
Size 1.98–2.10 × 0.81 cm. Wt: 20.191 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 5. FS. 2 IV/Be.

122. Æ. Mughal. Akbar. Narnol type. Date –.
Size 1.94–2.00 × 0.87 cm. Wt: 19.611 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 14. FS. 2 III/Ca, H. 25.90 m.

123. Æ. Mughal. Akbar. Mint: –. Date: 971.
Size 2.00–2.11 × 0.80 cm. Wt: 19.916 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 25. FS. 2 IV/Cb.

124. Æ. Mughal. Akbar. Mint –. Date: 97x.
Size 1.88–1.98 × 0.87 cm. Wt: 19.507 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 20. FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 24.65 m.

125. Æ. Mughal. Akbar. Mint/Date –.
Size 1.86–1.93 × 0.90 cm . Wt: 20.012 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 10. FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 26.05 m.

126. Æ. Mughal. Akbar. Mint –. Date: 97x.
Size 1.85–1.97 × 0.94 cm. Wt: 20.127 gm. Shape circular.
No. So III H 7. FS. 2 IV/Be.

127. Æ. Mughal. Jahangir. Mint/Date –.
Size 1.81–2.02 × 0.88 cm. Wt: 19.645 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 11. FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 26.02 m.

128. Æ. Mughal. Jahangir. Agra. Date:-ry.8.
Legend in triple circle = LMC no. 1778.
Size 2.45–2.50 × 0.50 cm. Wt: 18.468 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 12. FS. 2 IV/Ca, H. 26.02 m.

129. Æ. Mughal. Jahangir. Agra. Date: 1020.
Legend = LMC no. 1777. Counter-struck on a Suri coin.
Size 2.16–2.29 × 0.65 cm. Wt: 19.372 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 8. FS. 2 IV/Be.

130. Æ. Mughal. Shahjahan. Bairat. Date: 104x.
Legend = LMC no. 2435. All the three Alifs elongated.
Size 2.04–2.15 × 0.80 cm. Wt: 20.427 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 2. FS. Surface find.

131. AR. Mughal. Aurangzeb Alamgir. Akbarnagar. Date:xx17–49. Legend = LMC no. 2714.
Size 2.00–2.08 × 0.39 cm. Wt: 11.746 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 13. FS. 2 IV/Cb, H. 26.27 m.

L. COIN MOULDS

In the Levels 23 to 22, i.e Late Kṣatrapa to Early Kuṣāṇas, 26 fragments of circular coin moulds of fine and hard grey terracotta for casting punch-marked coins have been found. The technique of using such moulds has been clearly described by B. Sahni (1945: 44 ff.; 59 f.). As most of the Sonkh fragments are rather tiny, a group of six better preserved pieces may stand here for all.

1. Fragment of a top or bottom disc of a coin mould set. The blank outer face shows concentric grooves made by facing on a turntable. On the edge, adhering traces of luting are visible. The inner face preserves two complete and the halves of two more coin sockets of rectangular and rounded shape. From a hole in the centre short channels for leading the metal into the sockets are grooved. One socket is blank, the other shows indistinct traces of symbols (?).
L. 5.5 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2518.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 20.40 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

2. Fragment of an inner disc of a set of moulds. Remains of three and four coin sockets on each face respectively. Traces of symbols in two sockets of the face a. In the elliptical one sun and six-armed symbol can be identified. In face b three sockets seem to be blank, while in the large round one two lenticular marks are recognizable. Channels from the central hole leading straight to each socket.
L. 5.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2552.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 19.20 m. Late Kṣatrapa. L.23

3. Fragment of inner disc of a set of moulds. Remains of three coin-sockets of rectangular and round shape on both sides. All sockets seem to be blank. No channels from centre, the depressions are connected in pairs, as indicated on one of the faces.
L. 4.4 cm. B. 2.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2526.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 20.40 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

4. Small fragment of an inner disc of a set of coin moulds. Remains of two depressions on each face. One shows blank sockets, the other the outlines of two human figures with an elevated circle, perhaps another symbol, in between them.
L. 3.1 cm. B. 2.5 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2516.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 20.40 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

5. Small fragment of an inner disc of a set of coin moulds. Remains of two sockets on each face. Three of them are blank, one shows a human figure as in no. 4, and perhaps a second one of a row of three figures standing side by side.
L. 3.6 cm. B. 2.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2521.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 20.40 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

6. Small fragment of an inner disc of a set of coin moulds. Remains of one and two sockets on each face respectively. Two are blank, the single one shows three human figures standing side by side.
L. 2.3 cm. B. 2.4 cm. Colour: grey. No. So III A 2515.
FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 20.40 m. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22
Note: 20 more fragments of discs of a set of coin moulds are registered under So III A 2511–14; 2517; 2519–20; 2522–25; 2527–34.

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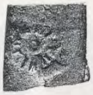
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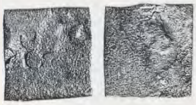
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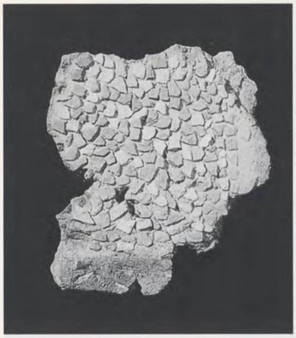
Coins. Period II/III, Uninscribed Copper (1–6), Punch-marked Copper (7–40). 1/1

21. Fragment of an object found closely together with roof-tiles and pinnacles. Two concentric grooves around wide holes.
20.8 × 16.5 × 13.1 cm. Red-brown. No. So III G 135.
FS. 2 V/Cc, H. 18.15–18.00 m. Mitra. L.27

22. Slightly damaged but complete pinnacle with three broad ribs having protruding edges, from a roof in Sūryamitra-L.27
Size: H. 37.0 cm. Diam. 14.1 cm. Colour: brick-red.
No. So III G 100. FS.2 V/Cb, H. 18.10 m. Mitra. L.27

23. Pinnacle similar to No. 22 but without the small upper rib.
Size: H. 35.0 cm. Diam. 13.8 cm. Colour: red-brown.
No. So III G 102. FS.2 V/Cb, H. 18.05 m. Mitra. L.27

24. Pinnacle without top. If it was intended to be closed, a lid must have been put on.
Size: H. 34.9 cm. Diam. 16.4 cm. Colour: red-brown.
No. So III G 101. FS. 2 V/Cb, H. 18.10 m. Mitra. L.27



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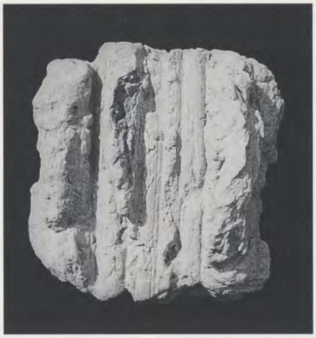

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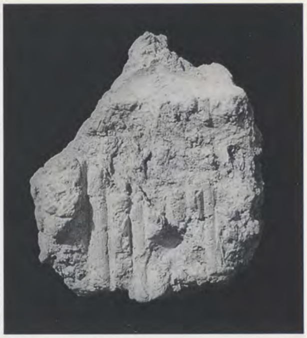

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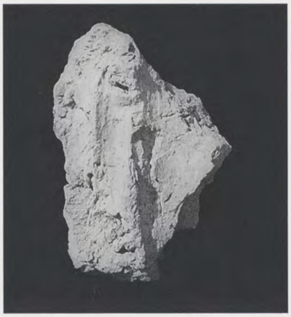

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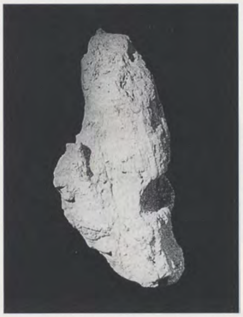

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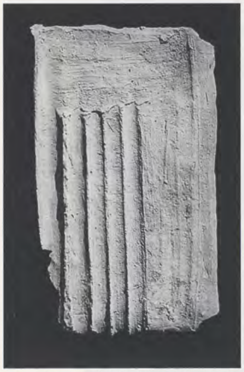

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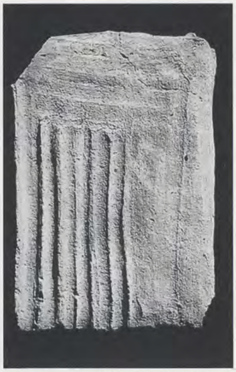

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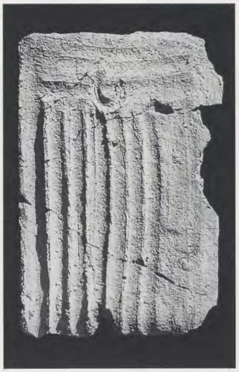

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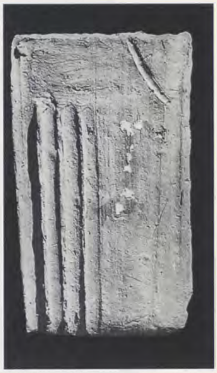

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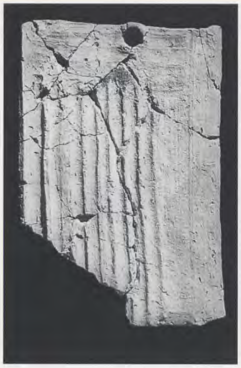
Some Structural Objects, Period II (1), Period III (2–9)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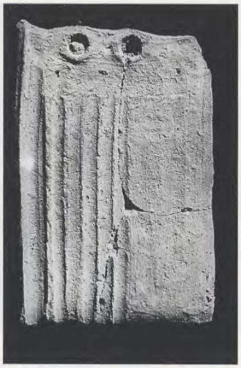
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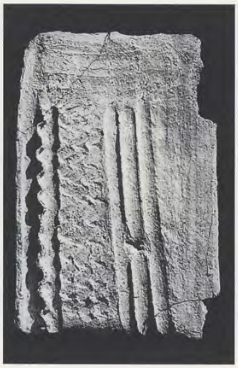
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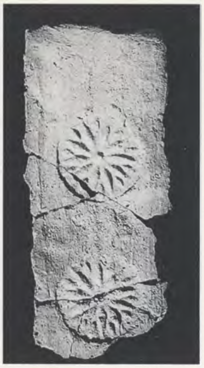
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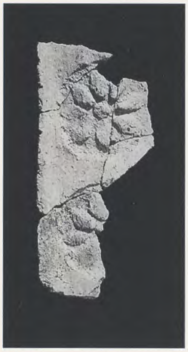
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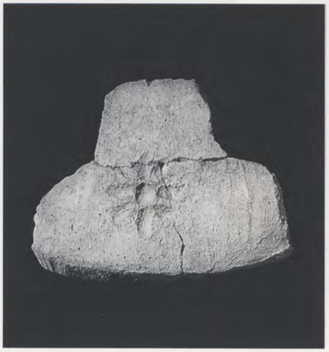
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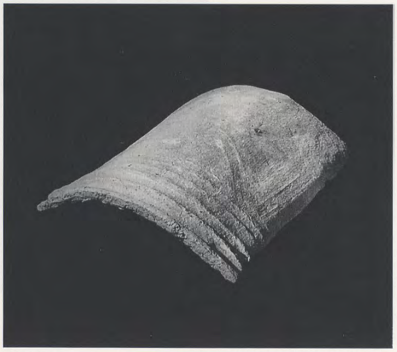
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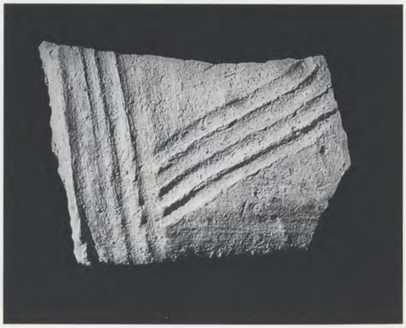
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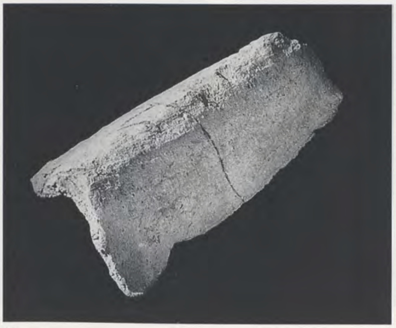
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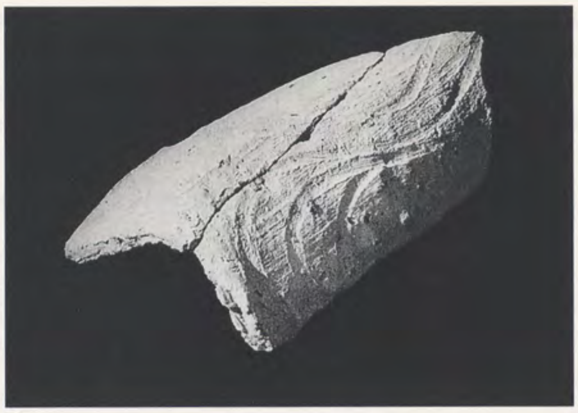
Some Structural Objects, Period III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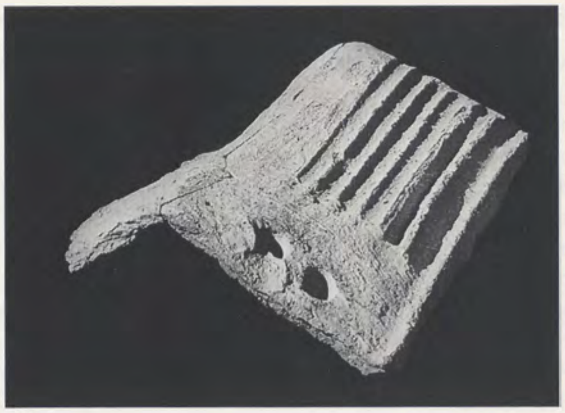
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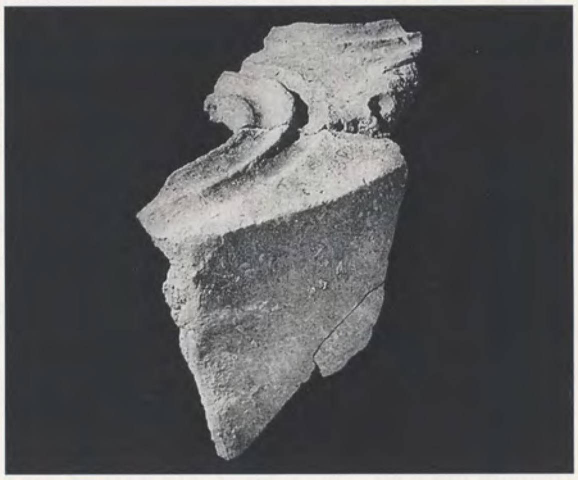
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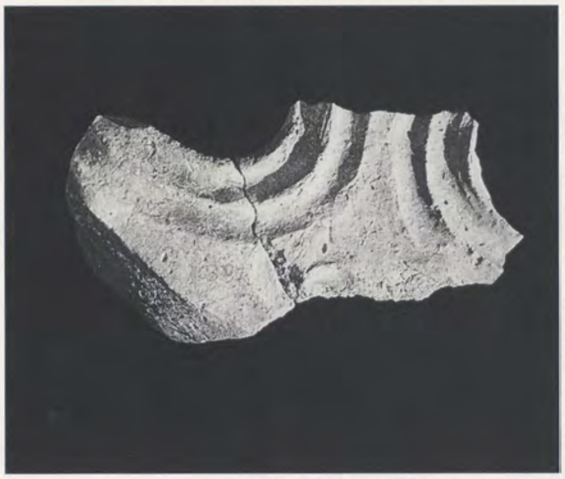
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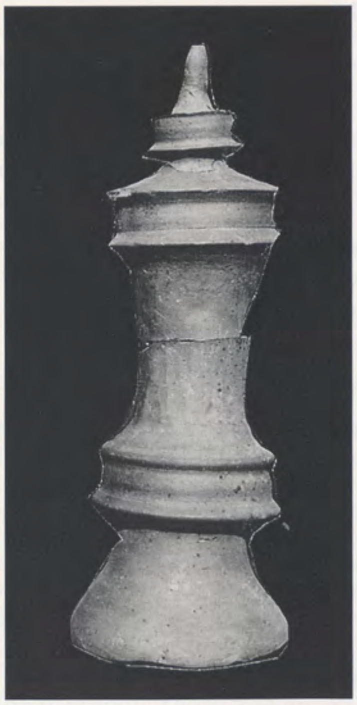
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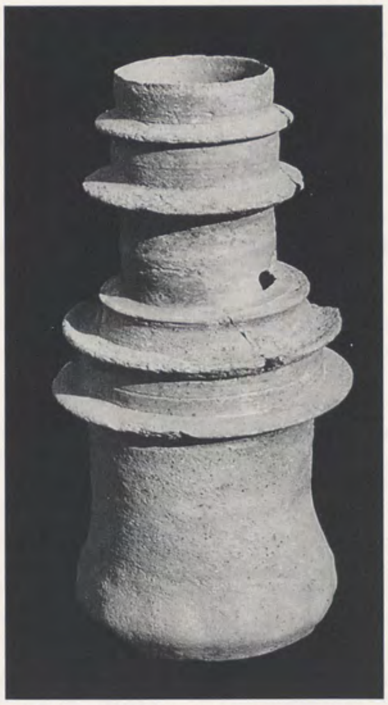
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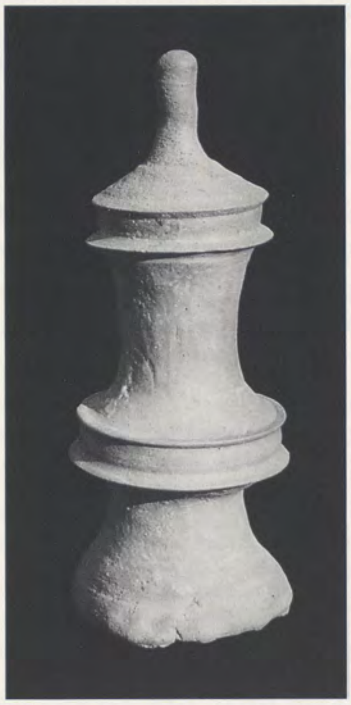
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Some Structural Objects, Period III

N. DECORATED POTTERY

During the excavation all fragments of pottery and loose sherds with decorative designs have been checked and its types registered. Altogether 1294 varying types of patterns were collected. The whole material has been dealt with in a thesis titled "Die Besonderen Scherben von Sonkh", submitted by Dr. Annette Achilles-Brettschneider (Free University Berlin 1980). For the purpose at hand a selection of 186 specimens represents the main types of decorative pottery patterns found in Sonkh. The material is going to be presented Period by Period, thus documenting appearance and disappearance of special methods of decorating potteries, and of the patterns changing so significantly during the times. The different pieces will, within the Periods, be grouped according to their technique in the order *painted, incised, paddle-marked, applied, stamped or moulded.* More complete or intact vessels with decoration are treated in the chapter POTTERY.

Period I. Fragments and Sherds from the PGW-Levels 40 to 37

1. Bowl-fragment of grey ware painted in black on the inner side with rows of dots and traces of strokes crossing the edge. 5.4 × 3.3 cm. So III F 814.

2. Sherd of grey ware painted in black with rows of short strokes on one side. 6.3 × 5.3 cm. So III F 816.

3. Base-fragment of a grey ware bowl painted on the inner side with four sets of strokes meeting at a free square. Black colour getting reddish at the outer ends. Outside reddish. 11.3 × 8.5 cm. So III F 952.

4. Rim-fragment of grey ware painted with a grey and orange horizontal band. 5.7 × 3.5 cm. So III F 821.

5. Rim-fragment of grey ware bowl painted on the inner side with one broad and two narrow vertical strokes, and a border-line along the edge. 3.3 × 3.4 cm. So III F 818.

6. Bowl-fragment of grey ware showing painted rim and set of 10 vertical brush-strokes on the outside. 5.5 × 5.3 cm. So III F 815.

7. Fragment of small bowl of grey ware painted with criss-cross design. 6.3 × 4.7 cm. So III F 827.

8. Bowl-fragment of grey ware painted with groups of curved strokes at the bottom and vertical strokes on the inner side. 10.4 × 7.3 cm. So III F 825.

9. Rim-fragment of grey ware bowl painted with flame-like curved strokes running downwards from rim. 4.1 × 2.6 cm. So III F 823.

10. Sherd of grey ware bowl painted on the inner side with a flower-like design formed by intersecting curved lines. 4.0 × 3.3 cm. So III F 843.

11. Sherd of grey ware bowl painted on the inner side with a set of ash-brown wavy lines of varying thickness. Outside ochre-coloured. 3.8 × 2.6 cm. So III F 960.

12. Sherd of grey ware bowl painted on one side with oblique rows of dots between two parallel lines. 8.3 × 1.5 cm So III F 998.

13. Rim-fragment of grey ware vase painted on the inner side with thick vertical strokes and carelessly placed dots in between. 4.6 × 3.2 cm. So III F 1241.

14. Sherd of grey ware painted with wavy lines and a double row of dots. 5.0 × 4.3 cm. So III F 847.

15. Sherd of grey ware painted with a set of concentric semicircles and parallel rows of dots. 5.8 × 3.8 cm. So III F 826.

16. Base-fragment of grey ware bowl painted on the inner side with strokes and dots and with incomplete concentric circles around bottom centre. 9.9 × 3.9 cm. So III F 836.

17. Base-fragment of grey ware painted with concentric circles and dot in centre. 3.6 × 3.0 cm. So III F 833.

18. Sherd of grey ware bowl painted on the outside with parallel strokes and concentric circles. 7.5 × 5.7 cm. So III F 835.

19. Sherd of grey ware painted with dots in a hook. 3.0 × 2.6 cm. So III F 857.

20. Rim-fragment of grey ware painted with a rim-band and hooked strokes forming a star. 3.3 × 3.1 cm. So III F 1288.

21. Small sherd of grey ware painted with a design in shape of a star. 2.0 × 1.6 cm. So III F 1242.

22. Sherd of grey ware painted with a design formed by hooks emerging from a common centre. 3.6 × 2.2 cm. So III F 1246.

23. Sherd of grey ware painted with a "ladder" and hooks. 7.1 × 6.8 cm. So III F 851.

24. Base-fragment of grey ware painted with two parallel signs shaped like a closed S. 9.3 × 8.9 cm. So III F 1290.

25. Sherd of grey ware painted with a petal-shaped design filled with two rows of short strokes. 5.6 × 4.3 cm. So III F 854.

26. Sherd of grey ware painted with curved strokes, dots, and a corkscrew design. 4.8 × 4.5 cm. So III F 841.

Associated Red Ware

27. Sherd of red ware showing triangles with pecked notches and an incised horizontal herring-bone band as upper border. 11.7 × 10.1 cm. So III F 595.

28. Fragment of red ware vessel incised with a double wavy line along shoulder. 11.6 × 6.3 cm. So III F 994.

29. Fragment of red ware vessel decorated with a horizontal band of an incised design shaped like opened scissor-blades. 6.6 × 5.9 cm. So III F 1280.

30. Shoulder-fragment of red ware vessel decorated with a horizontal band of rows of oblique pecked notches. 11.4 × 5.1 cm. So III F 1279.

31. Rim-fragment of red ware vessel decorated with a horizontal band of oblique short strokes. 12.8 × 6.2 cm. So III F 786.

32. Sherd of red ware decorated with a rough paddle-marked check design. 13.4 × 10.2 cm. So III F 599.

33. Sherd of red ware decorated with a paddle-marked check design. 6.3 × 4.7 cm. So III F 658.

34. Shoulder-fragment of red ware vessel showing a horizontal appliqué rib having oblique incisions. 10.9 × 8.1 cm. So III F 666.

Period II. Fragments and Sherds from Levels 36 to 30

35. Shoulder-fragment of red ware vessel crudely incised with a check design. 5.5 × 4.7 cm. So III F 977. Maurya. L.33/32

36. Rim-fragment of a red ware bowl with incision of an elephant(?) on the inner side. 6.3 × 4.2 cm. So III F 1270. Maurya. L.31/30

37. Base-fragment of NBP ware bowl with stamped concentric circles. 4.1 × 2.9 cm. So III F 1238. Maurya. L.36/35.

38. Base-fragment of grey ware with stamped design of two concentric circles having elevated dots in the outer and a single dot in the central orb. 3.0 × 1.9 cm. So III F 993. Maurya. L.34/33.

Period III. Fragments and Sherds from Levels 28 to 25

39. Shoulder-fragment of red ware vessel showing incised birds and lotus rosettes above geometrical border consisting of incised and punctured grooves. 7.1 × 7.3 cm. So III F 1282. Mitra. L.26/25

40. Shoulder-and-rim-fragment with triangular notches within incised triangles. 10.0 × 4.8 cm. So III F 1219. Mitra. L.27/26

41. Base-fragment of red ware vessel decorated with short notches within incised triangle. 7.2 × 5.5 cm. So III F 619. Mitra. L.25

42. Sherd of red ware decorated with paddle-marked rhomboid design. 7.3 × 7.1 cm. So III F 1284. Early Mitra. L.28

43. Sherd of red ware vessel with paddled parallel grooves. 11.8 × 8.5 cm. So III F 1206. Mitra. L.26

44. Sherd of red ware vessel strongly paddled with sets of parallel grooves. 13.9 × 5.6 cm. So III F 997. Mitra. L.26

45. Sherd of red ware vessel paddled with sets of deep parallel grooves. 8.8 × 8.3 cm. So III F 604. Mitra. L.25

46. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel showing one appliqué and punctured taurine symbol. 4.6 × 4.0 cm. So III F 1285. Early Mitra. L.28(?)

47. Sherd of red ware with appliqué curved svastika on disc-like base. 6.3 × 4.1 cm. So III F 615. Mitra. L.26

48. Sherd of red ware with appliqué curved svastika. 11.4 × 9.9 cm. So III F 988. Mitra. L.26

49. Shoulder-fragment of red ware vessel decorated with an appliqué horizontal rib looking like a twisted cord, and an appliqué nandyāvarta symbol. 10.9 × 10.3 cm. So III F 1143. Mitra. L.26

50. Sherd of red ware vessel decorated with horizontally grooved lines, and a fourfold nandyāvarta impression. 3.8 × 3.2 cm. So III F 1229. Mitra. L.26

51. Sherd of red ware with appliqué nandyāvarta symbol. 9.8 × 6.6 cm. So III F 756. Mitra. Ditch.

52. Shoulder-fragment of red ware vessel showing an appliqué horizontal rib with finger-impressions. 12.7 × 6.6 cm. So III F 877. Mitra. L.27

53. Fragment of a red ware vessel showing two appliqué parallel horizontal ribs with a design of vertical cloth-impressed notches. 8.8 × 7.7 cm. So III F 1220. Mitra. L.27/26

54. Shoulder-fragment of red ware vessel with appliqué horizontal rib looking like a twisted cord. 11.4 × 3.4 cm. So III F 1167. Mitra. L.26

55. Shoulder-fragment of red ware vessel with two appliqué horizontal ribs, one looking like a twisted cord, the other showing thumb-impressed design. 12.7 × 9.2 cm. So III F 1259. Mitra. L.25

Period IV. Fragments and Sherds from Levels 24 to 23

56. Sherd of red ware with a band of zigzag incisions bordered by grooved lines. 4.3 × 5.2 cm. So III F 966. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

57. Sherd of red ware paddled with sets of parallel grooves. 10.1 × 7.5 cm. So III F 1054. Kṣatrapa. L.24

58. Sherd of red ware with incised and impressed grooves. 14.0 × 4.9 cm. So III F 939. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

59. Fragment of red ware vessel showing appliqué ribs with notches, and circles with elevated dots. 8.1 × 6.0 cm. So III F 537. Kṣatrapa. L.24

60. Sherd of red ware with moulded double-lined svastika on appliqué disc of clay. 8.1 × 6.0 cm. So III F 887. Kṣatrapa. L.24

61. Sherd of red ware vessel with appliqué angular svastika. 10.4 × 6.2 cm. So III F 1261. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

62. Sherd of red ware with appliqué lotus rosette. 6.3 × 6.3 cm. So III F 992. Early Kṣatrapa. L.(25)/24

63. Sherd of red ware with impressed nandyāvarta. 4.9 × 4.2 cm. So III F 1266. Kṣatrapa. L.24

64. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with grooved horizontal lines and stamped semicircles. 10.2 × 5.9 cm. So III F 1189. Kṣatrapa. L.24

65. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware showing two parallel bands of 3-shaped design. 7.6 × 7.8 cm. So III F 1150. Kṣatrapa.L.24

66. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with horizontal grooves and a band of stamped design shaped like turned S. 5.9 × 4.5 cm. So III F 1217. Kṣatrapa. L.23

67. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with a horizontal band of impressed svastikas bordered by grooved lines. 12.2 × 5.4 cm. So III F 935. Kṣatrapa. L.23

68. Sherd of red ware decorated with a stamped "star" consisting of elevated dots in between three concentric circles. 5.5 × 3.3 cm. So III F 1169. Kṣatrapa. L.23

69. Sherd of a red ware vessel stamped with star-shaped rosette consisting of triangular petals around two concentric circles. 5.1 × 3.5 cm. So III F 1210. Kṣatrapa. L.23

70. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware stamped with a single oblique leaf-shaped design. A Kṣatrapa speciality. 8.5 × 5.9 cm. So III F 1149. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

71. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with a series of a stamped leaf variety. 9.5 × 4.0 cm. So III F 1055. Kṣatrapa. L.24

72. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red-ware stamped with a vertical leaf. 6.4 × 4.3 cm. So III F 1177. Kṣatrapa. L.23

73. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with horizontal grooves and a stamped leaf variety. 8.2 × 3.5 cm. So III F 606. Out of context.

74. Shoulder-fragment of a vessel in red ware decorated with a band of impressed triangles (zigzag-line). 9.3 × 5.7 cm. So III F 974. Kṣatrapa. L.23

75. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel showing a double band of impressed triangles (zigzag-lines). 4.5 × 4.2 cm. So III F 990. Kṣatrapa. L.24/23

76. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with a triple band of impressed triangles (zigzag-lines). 4.6 × 5.3 cm. So III F 1019. Kṣatrapa. L.23

77. Rim-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with a band of triangles and a stamped leaf. 3.8 × 3.2 cm. So III F 897. Early Kṣatrapa. L.24

78. Rim-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with a double band of impressed triangles above a band of stamped leaves alternating with stamped lotus rosette. 10.6 × 5.0 cm. So III F 1035. L.25 (out of context?)

79. Shoulder and rim of a jar in red ware decorated with horizontal bands of stamped V-design and curved rows of notches. 17.7 × 12.4 cm. So III F 1276. Kṣatrapa. L.23

80. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with horizontal grooves as well as stamped arcs, rosettes, and a leaf variety. 6.8 × 5.6 cm. So III F 1118. Kṣatrapa. L.23

81. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with stamped leaves, nandyāvartas, and sun-symbol with oblique rays. 8.6 × 6.6 cm. So III F 933. Kṣatrapa. L.23

82. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with horizontal grooves and a stamped design shaped like a vase. At the lower edge remains of a loop. 4.3 × 4.4 cm. Kṣatrapa. L.24

Period V. Fragments and Sherds from Levels 22 to 16

83. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with painted horizontal bands and stamped loops painted over with a gold- coloured wash. 12.0 × 9.0 cm. So III F 300. Kuṣāṇa. L.16/15

84. Sherd of a red ware vessel decorated with an incised band of rhomboid pattern. 5.6 × 5.8 cm. So III F 671. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

85. Fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with an appliqué rib looking like a twisted cord, and an incised and pricked wavy tendril. 10.0 × 5.3 cm. So III F 1002. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

86. Base-fragment of a small red ware bowl with incised triangular "petals" around central circle on the inside. So III F 445. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

87. Sherd of a jar in red ware decorated with an appliqué rib looking like a twisted cord. 12.5 × 6.8 cm. So III F 888. Kuṣāṇa. L.22

88. Sherd of a jar in red ware decorated with an appliqué band showing a row of finger-impressions. 17.4 × 7.9 cm. So III F 247. Kuṣāṇa. L.16

89. Sherd of a jar in red ware decorated with appliqué bands of a design of finger-impressions alternating with a twisted-cord-rib. 11.0 × 6.2 cm. So III F 304. Kuṣāṇa. L.16

90. Sherd of a jar in red ware decorated with grooves and an impressed fish-scale pattern. 13.5 × 11.4 cm. So III F 1131. Kuṣāṇa. L.20/19

91. Rim of a red ware bowl or lamp decorated with appliqué double-crescents. L.4.1 cm. So III F 628. Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16

92. Sherd of a jar in red ware decorated with an appliqué angular svastika showing incised notches. 13.7 × 10.0 cm. So III F 575. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

93. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware jar decorated with a stamped multiple rhomboid design and semicircular creepers. 7.9 × 7.2 cm. So III F 582. Kuṣāṇa. L.22

94. Fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with horizontal grooves, vertical strokes and stamped semicircular garlands. 14.5 × 11.8 cm. So III F 631. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/18

95. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware showing horizontal grooves and stamped V-shaped garlands. 7.0 × 4.9 cm. So III F 363. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

96. Sherd of a jar in red ware stamped with a band of crescents (= unclosed circles) and chevrons. 9.2 × 6.8 cm. So III F 557. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

97. Sherd of a red ware jar decorated with stamped double-circles enclosing a dot, and a row of double chevrons. 7.4 × 4.1 cm. So III F 359. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

98 Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with horizontal grooves as well as a stamped design of three double circles and semicircular garlands. 6.0 × 4.3 cm. So III F 315. Kuṣāṇa. L.16

99. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware showing two rows of stamped circles with wavy lines in between, and impressed rays and circles below. 15.6 × 7.5 cm. So III F 260. Kuṣāṇa. L.16

100. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with horizontal rows of dots and circles above fan-like arranged rays hanging down from a horizontal groove. 9.9 × 5.9 cm. So III F 392. Kuṣāṇa. L.16

101. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware with stamped rosettes and the rare design of a flower vase. 10.4 × 6.4 cm. So III F 923. Kuṣāṇa. L.22

102. Sherd of a red ware vessel with a stamped design looking like a vase placed upside down. 5.4 × 4.6 cm. So III F 989. Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21

103. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with a band of śaṅkhas on grooved ground. 9.6 × 5.1 cm. So III F 896. Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21

104. Sherd of a red ware vessel stamped with a tree-shaped design. 6.2 × 5.3 cm. So III F 434. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

105. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware jar decorated with horizontally grooved lines and a rare floral(?) design. 9.1 × 4.1 cm . So III F 561. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

106. Fragment of shoulder and rim of a red ware vessel richly decorated with horizontal grooves, a band of oblique rows of notches, short strokes and haṃsas between nandyāvartas. 18.0 × 6.1 cm. So III F 1095. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

107. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with a band of angular svastikas two hooks of which are doubled. 1.9 × 4.8 cm. So III F 621. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

108. Fragment of shoulder and rim of a red ware vessel decorated with stamped rows of 1) svastikas, 2) concentric double circles with dots in centre, and 3) a band of S-shaped design. Below, remains of a horizontal garland. 10.0 × 9.2 cm. So III F 1124. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

109. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware with horizontal grooves and vase-shaped impressions in between. 11.9 × 10.6 cm. So III F 1133. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

110. Fragment of shoulder and neck of a red ware vessel decorated with a rib looking like a twisted cord, and a band of stamped vases. 5.6 × 7.5 cm. So III F 642. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

111. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware richly stamped with a band of 1) crossing wavy garlands, 2) flower-bowls(?) placed upside down, and 3) a rib of oblique notches. 11.5 × 5.7 cm. So III F 608. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

112. Fragment of shoulder and neck of a red ware jar decorated with horizontal bands of stamped designs as 1) concentric double circles, 2) a design looking like hands with 6 fingers, and 3) remains of alternating nandyāvartas and rosettes separated by grooved horizontal lines. 10.4 × 5.5 cm. So III F 560. Kuṣāṇa. L.17/16

113. Fragment of shoulder and neck of a red ware vessel richly stamped with horizontal rows of 1) "hands", 2) rhomboid pattern with central dot, 3) curved sets of short strokes, and 4) long vertical strokes. 11.0 × 14.1 cm. So III F 385. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

114. Shoulder-fragment of red ware jar decorated with an appliqué rib looking like a twisted cord and stamped "hands". 10.1 × 6.8 cm. So III F 527. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

115. Sherd of red ware vessel with stamped śrīvatsa. 7.3 × 6.0 cm. So III F 766. Kuṣāṇa. L.22

116. Shoulder and neck of a jar in red ware stamped with a horizontal band of śrīvatsas. 6.9 × 4.1 cm. So III F 1062. Kuṣāṇa. L.22

117. Sherd of red ware vessel stamped with a śrīvatsa between horizontal grooved lines. 6.6 × 4.5 cm. So III F 762. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

118. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel stamped with a rare type of śrīvatsa. 7.1 × 6.8 cm. So III F 764. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

119. Sherd of red ware vessel with stamped śrīvatsa. 3.6 × 3.2 cm. So III F 765. Kuṣāṇa. L.17

120. Sherd of red ware vessel decorated with two rows of notches and a stamped leaf. 9.0 × 7.3 cm. So III F 1115. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

121. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware stamped with a band of different leaves. Below it a nandyāvarta. 9.9 × 5.9 cm. So III F 511. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

122. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware jar stamped with a variation of leaves, a zigzag border and horizontal grooves. 9.0 × 5.6 cm. So III F 1258. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

123. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with horizontal grooves separating a row of leaf-variations above and a nandyāvarta between S-shaped pattern below. 9.3 × 7.6 cm. So III F 538. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

124. Rim-fragment of a red ware vase decorated with stamped sun-design, leaves, rhomboid patterns, and grooved horizontal lines. H. 7,5 cm. So III F 97. Out of context.

125. Sherd of a red ware vessel with stamped wheel or rosette. 4.9 × 3.2 cm. So III F 865. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

126. Shoulder-fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with a rhomboid design as well as "turning wheels" (whirling sun). 7.2 × 4.7 cm. So III F 1192. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

127. Fragment of a jar in red ware decorated with stamped sun-wheels on the shoulder. 9.7 × 9.5 cm. So III F 1128. Kuṣāṇa. L.21/20

128. Sherd of a red ware vessel stamped with "stars", consisting of rays around two concentric circles with a dot in center. 6.3 × 3.4 cm. So III F 800. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

129. Shoulder-fragment of a vessel in red ware with a horizontal border of impressed triangles and a stamped rosette with elevated dots in the inner circle. 7.9 × 5.3 cm. So III F 513. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22/21

130. Shoulder-fragment of a vessel in red ware decorated with horizontal grooves with fan-like pendants, and a stamped star-rosette with short rays outside and elevated dots inside the central circle. 12.8 × 9.4 cm. So III F 491. Kuṣāṇa. L.19/18

131. Sherd of a vessel in red ware with a stamped rosette consisting of a wheel with spokes and hub surrounded by seven circles with a dot in center. 8.4 × 6.4 cm. So III F 799. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

132. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with a semicircle of notches and a stamped rosette with eight petals. 7.7 × 6.3 cm. So III F 534. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

133. Shoulder-fragment of a vessel in red ware decorated with stamped leave-variations and nandyāvarta between horizontally grooved lines. 6.9 × 5.6 cm. So III F 1050. Early Kuṣāṇa. L.22

134. Sherd of a vessel in red ware showing a stamped nandyāvarta. 5.0 × 3.4 cm. So III F 327. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

135. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with stamped nandyāvartas showing a rather rare flower-like top. 7.5 × 4.8 cm. So III F 1248. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

136. Base-fragment of a small bowl stamped on the inner side with a rosette consisting of a circle with a nandyāvarta in the centre and semicircular leaves on the outer edge. 4.7 × 3.3 cm. So III F 559. Kuṣāṇa. L.17

137. Sherd of a moulded caolin bowl with floral design under a horizontal geometrical border on the outside. 4.6 × 4.3 cm. So III F 522. Kuṣāṇa. L.21

138. Fragment of a moulded caolin bowl reliefed with a lotus rosette and other floral ornaments. H. 3.4 cm. Diam. 9.0 cm. So I 22. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

139. Fragment of a moulded red ware vessel decorated on the outside with a circle of rosette leaves, a band with symbols like svastika, cross-flower, vase, flower, and nandyāvarta, each field separated from the other by a vertical double-line enclosing a row of pearls. Below, remains of a band of haṃsas following one after the other. Smooth red slip. 6.8 × 7.0 cm. So I 40. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

140. Fragment of a mould for a small red ware bowl showing a lotus rosette and semicircular loops attached to a horizontal border line. H. 4.7 cm. Diam. 9.5 cm. So III F 810. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

141. Fragment of a small moulded red ware bowl decorated on the outside with a crude type of rosette with triangular petals and leaves. H. 3.5 cm. Diam. 7.0 cm. So III F 468. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

142. Base-fragment of a small moulded bowl in red ware showing on the outside a crude rosette and rows of short ridges. 7.0 × 5.9 cm. So III F 365. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

143. Fragment of a small moulded red ware bowl decorated on the outside with a large svastika(?) and a geometrical border. 5.0 × 3.6 cm. So III F 465. Kuṣāṇa. L.18/17

144. Fragment of a small moulded bowl of red ware decorated on the outside with a turning star and an arrow-shaped design above a horizontal rib. 4.1 × 3.5 cm. So III F 464. Kuṣāṇa. L.17

145. Fragment of a small moulded bowl of red ware decorated on the outside with tree-like pattern in a triangle, each separated by a vertical rib. 8.3 × 6.0 cm. So III F 311. Kuṣāṇa. L.16

146. Fragment of a small moulded bowl decorated on the outside with a simple design of twig-shaped ribs. H. 3.2 cm. Diam. ca. 8.0 cm So III F 312. Late Kuṣāṇa. L.16/15

Period VI. Fragments and Sherds from Levels 15 to 12

147. Jar of red ware, red-slipped, decorated with horizontal black painted horizontal stripes. The colour-nuance of the slip is an unmistakably Gupta variant used in combination with the painted black stripes for bowls and jars. So II 822. Gupta. L.16/15

148. Jar of red ware, red slipped, decorated with horizontal black stripes and painted lobed necklace. So II 508. Gupta. L.14

149. Shoulder-fragment of a vessel in red ware scratched with a zigzag-border and a floral(?) design. B. 13.5 cm. So III F 125. Late Gupta. L.14

150. Brown-slipped sherd decorated with scratched triangles alternately filled with zigzag-lines below a zigzag-border within horizontal grooves. B. 14.0 cm. So III F 75. Post-Gupta. L.13

151. Brown-slipped sherd scratched with curved lines and zigzag arranged vertically in nearly parallel rows separated by vertical lines. 10.3 × 8.4 cm. So III F 124. Post-Gupta. L.12

152. Brown-slipped sherd decorated with a scratched bird enclosed by zigzag-borders. H. 13.5 cm. So III F 123. Post-Gupta. L.12

153. Sherd of red ware decorated with a paddle-mark design of rows of elevated dots between bordering ribs. Mica-washed. 9.9 × 7.6 cm. So III F 273. Post-Gupta. L.12

154. Sherd of a red ware vessel paddled with a design of dots between parallel ribs. Traces of mica. 5.8 × 5.8 cm. So III F 201. Post-Gupta. L.13/12

155. Sherd of a red ware vessel paddled with a design of dots in rhomboid fields. Covered with mica. 5.9 × 4.7 cm. So III F 198. Post-Gupta. L.13/12

156. Sherd of a red ware vessel decorated with appliqué pointed elevated dots. Painted over with mica. 6.2 × 5.2 cm. So III F 188. Post-Gupta. L.13/12

157. Sherd of red ware decorated in relief with fish-scale pattern. Covered with mica. 12.5 × 6.2 cm. So III F 183. Post-Gupta/Early Medieval. L.12

158. Sherd of red ware decorated in relief with a floral design. Traces of mica. B. 8.8 cm. So III F 96. Post-Gupta/Early Medieval. L.12

159. Fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with a complicated moulded design of elevated dots, circles, ribs and curved lines. Painted over in red, black, and gold. 10.0 × 7.5 cm. So III F 341. Gupta. L.16/15

160. Fragment of a moulded red ware vessel with elevated curved lines. Painted over in olive and red-brown . 4.3 × 3.5 cm. So III F 342. Gupta. L.16/15

161. Fragment of a moulded red ware bowl with a design of two concentric circles enclosing an elevated dot. 9.5 × 7.5 cm. So III F 343. Gupta. L.16/15

162. Fragment of a small moulded red ware bowl decorated with stylized petals and a horizontal rim-line. 5.5 × 5.8 cm. So III F 147. Post-Gupta. L.13/12

163. Fragment of a small moulded red ware bowl with a design of vertical ribs. 4.0 × 6.3 cm. So III F 144. Post-Gupta. L.13/12

164. Fragment of a small moulded bowl in red ware covered with a rhomboid lattice design. 4.0 × 7.2 cm. So III F 239. Post-Gupta/Early Medieval. L.12/11

165. Fragment of a moulded red ware bowl decorated with symbols. 5.2 × 12.8 cm. So III F 288. Post-Gupta. L.12

166. Fragment of a moulded red ware bowl with a lotus rosette and wave bands. 5.0 × 6.4 cm. So III F 141. Post-Gupta/Early Medieval. L.12/11

167. Fragment of a moulded red ware bowl with a rosette within a geometrical setting of lines. 4.5 × 5.8 cm. So III F 152. Post-Gupta. L.12

168. Fragment of a moulded red ware bowl decorated with two lotus rosettes one above the other in sectors separated by vertical double-ribs. Along the bottom a horizontal line of elevated dots (pearl-border). 7.0 × 13.7 cm. So III F 134. Post-Gupta. L.12

169. Fragment of a moulded red ware bowl decorated with a lotus-rosette in separate sectors. 8.0 × 6.6 cm. So III F 277. Post-Gupta. L.13/12

170. Small fragment of a moulded red ware bowl with śaṅkhas in separate sectors. 4.8 × 4.8 cm. So III F 85. Post-Gupta/Early Medieval. L.12/11

171. Sherd of a moulded red ware vessel decorated with a complicated design of floral and geometrical pattern. 7.0 × 4.8 cm. So III F 177. Post-Gupta. L.12

172. Sherd of a moulded red ware vessel decorated with a complicated labyrinth design of elevated lines. 6.2 × 6.0 cm. So III F 156. Post-Gupta. L.12

173. Shoulder-fragment of a moulded red ware vessel decorated with two bands of animals one behind the other, separated by horizontal ribs. 9.1 × 4.9 cm. So III F 200. Post-Gupta/Early Medieval. L.12/11

Period VII/VIII. Fragments and Sherds from Levels 12 to 1

174. Fragment of a big jar, red-slipped, decorated with black painted horizontal stripes, oblique lozenges, zigzag-line, delicately painted swans, a lobed necklace, and dots on the rim. So II 849. Post-Gupta/Early Medieval. L.13/12

175. Fragment of thin grey ware, white slipped, decorated with incised and painted floral and geometrical pattern in olive colour. 10.9 × 7.9 cm. So III F 61. Late Medieval/Early Islamic. L.10

176. Fragment of thin grey ware, white slipped, decorated with incised and painted floral pattern in olive colour. 8.7 × 5.8 cm. So III F 62. Late Medieval/Early Islamic. L.10

177. Sherd of a red ware vessel, red polished on the outside, painted with silvery rays. 4.0 × 3.2 cm. So III F 167. Islamic. L.7

178. Globular jar, red-slipped, decorated with black and white painted ornaments. So II 3081. Jāṭ L.4

179. Carinated jar, red-slipped, with black painted decoration. So II 233. Jāṭ. L.4

180. Shoulder-fragment of a red ware vessel decorated with groups of incised lines arranged in a zigzag-design between bands of horizontal grooves. 7.8 × 4.3 cm. So III F 114. Islamic. L.7/6

181. Sherd of thin red ware decorated with scratched leaves on white slipped ground. 5.7 × 4.9 cm. So III F 504. Jāṭ. L.4

182. Rim-fragment of an egg-coloured red ware bowl decorated with a scratched fish-scale pattern below parallel lines. 2.5 × 2.5 cm. Jāṭ. L.4

183. Sherd of a black-slipped vessel decorated with stamped stars and circles between horizontal grooves. 4.9 × 5.1 cm. So III F 24. Jāṭ. L.5

184. Sherd of a moulded yellow-brown vessel decorated with a floral design and a row of circles filled with dots. 5.0 × 5.0 cm. So III F 52. Islamic. L.9

185. Sherd of soft light brown, white slipped moulded vessel, on the outside with rows of floral design bordered with a pearl-band. 5.4 × 4.4 cm. So III F 34. Islamic. L.8/7

186. Fragment of a soft light brown moulded vessel, on the outside with large circles and star design surrounded by geometrical patterns. 7.4 × 4.9 cm. So III F 32. Islamic. L.8/7

O. POTTER'S STAMPS

The excavation yielded twentytwo terracotta objects which are undoubtedly potter's stamps or fragments of such. Sixteen of them come from Kuṣāṇa levels, four are surface finds but can be allotted to the Kuṣāṇa period, two pieces have been found in Gupta levels. One of these objects is not a stamp but a potter's mould for the decoration of small bowls. With the exception of five unproductive fragments the seventeen remaining specimens are listed here.

Periods V/(VI). Potter's Stamps from Levels 20 to (13)

1. Double-faced stamp with 1) a large semicircular design consisting of a row of holes and, above it, a band of vertical strokes, and 2) a small round rosette formed of the same patterns as contained in no. 1.
Diam. 6.1/3.1 cm. So III A 17. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

2. Double-faced stamp with 1) a semicircle of vertical notches and 2) a small circle impressed with notches.
Diam. 6.0/3.3 cm. So III A 939. Kuṣāṇa. L.18

3. Stamp with conical handle showing a slightly mutilated nandyāvarta symbol.
L. 4.8 cm. So III A 1851. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

4. Stamp with perforated conical handle showing a nandyāvarta symbol different from no. 3.
L. 4.5 cm. H. 2.6 cm. So III A 1700. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

5. Stamp with conical handle deeply carved with a nandyāvarta symbol of the spiral type.
L. 4.3 cm. H. 2.8 cm. So III A 135. Kuṣāṇa (out of context).

6. Stamp with stubby rounded handle carved with a nandyāvarta symbol of the leaf type.
L. 3.7 cm. H. 2.5 cm. So III A 687. Kuṣāṇa. L.16

7. Stamp with conical handle carved with a nandyāvarta symbol of cracknel type.
L. 3.6 cm. H. 2.0 cm. So I 34. Kuṣāṇa (out of context).

8. Stamp with tapering handle carved with a rosette of pointed leaves.L. 6.5 cm. Diam. 4.2 cm. So III A 1142. Kuṣāṇa. L.17

9. Double-faced stamp with tapering handle carved with 1) a larger rosette consisting of two concentric circles surrounded by smaller circles, and 2) a smaller but similar rosette as 1).
L. 3.8 cm. Diam. 2.9 cm. So III A 1106. Kuṣāṇa. L.20

10. Stamp with tapering handle carved with a design similar to no. 9 but of cruder make.
L.3.8 cm Diam. 3.6 cm. So III A 828. Kuṣāṇa. L.16

11. Stamp with a pedestal-shaped handle bearing rosette design in the centre surrounded with a band of vertical strokes.
L.4.5 cm. ∅ 3.9 cm. So III A 114. Kuṣāṇa (out of context).

12. Stamp with a stepwise tapering handle bearing rosette design in the centre surrounded with two bands of ray-like strokes.
3.9 × 6.2 cm. So III A 15. Kuṣāṇa (out of context).

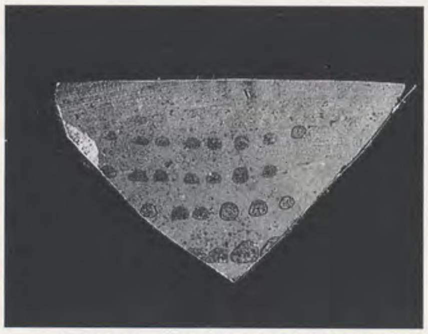
13. Mutilated stamp with tapering handle bearing a "geometrical" rosette with a spiral in the centre and with a surrounding band of tripartite "rays" intended to continue the inner lines. The design gives the impression of movement.
H. 3.7 cm. Diam. 5.7 cm. So III A 902.
Found in Late Gupta L.14/13

14. Small pottery stamp with sharply cut rosette having triangular leaves surrounding two concentric circles forming the slightly deepened centre.
H. 1.5 cm. Diam. 2.0 cm. So III A 685. Kuṣāṇa. L.17

15. Fragment of a stamp with the carved design of seven concentric circles.
H. 2.2 cm. ∅ 9.8 cm. So III A 1277. Kuṣāṇa. L.19

16. Stamp with long tapering handle carved with a spiral ending in a hole in the centre.
H. 5.1 cm. Diam. 3.1 cm. So III F 824.
Found in Late Gupta L.14

17. Potter's mould for the decoration of a small bowl with a design of a rosette having punctured leaves, meant for producing elevated dots.
Diam. 7.9 cm. So III A 2050. Kuṣāṇa. L.17



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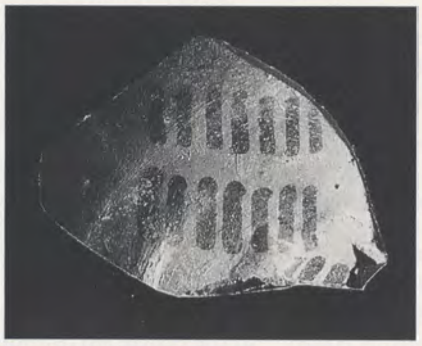

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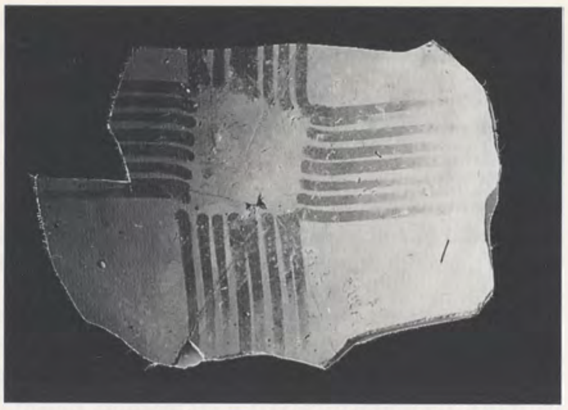

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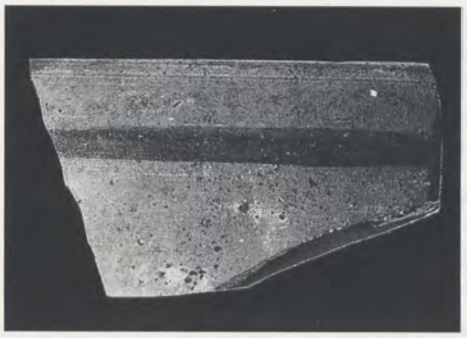

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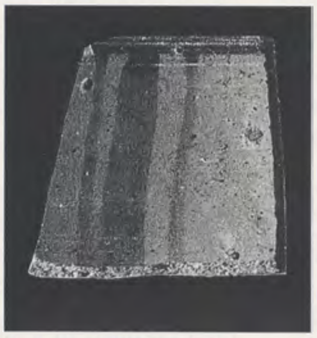

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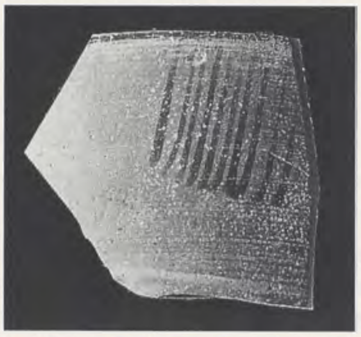

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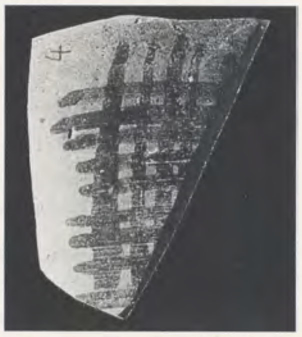

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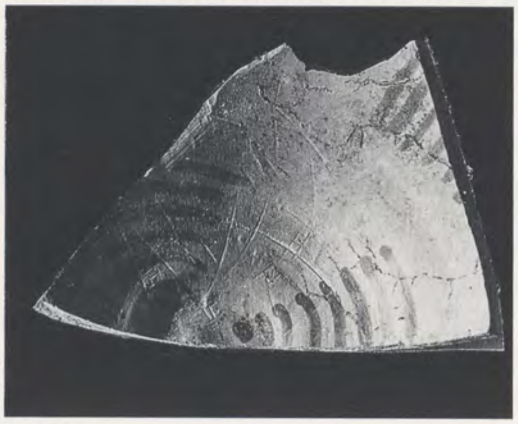

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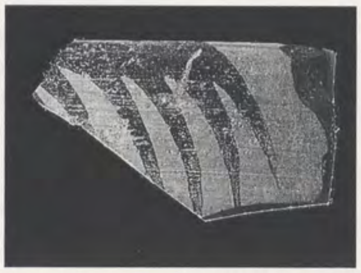

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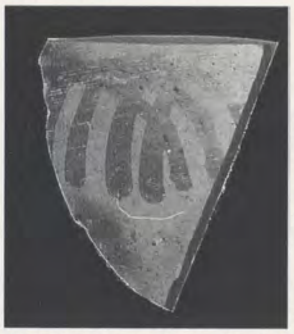

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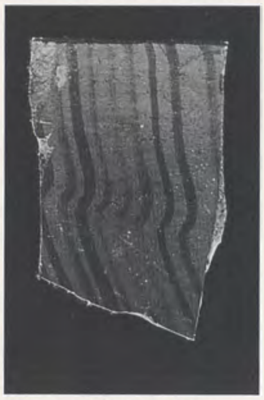

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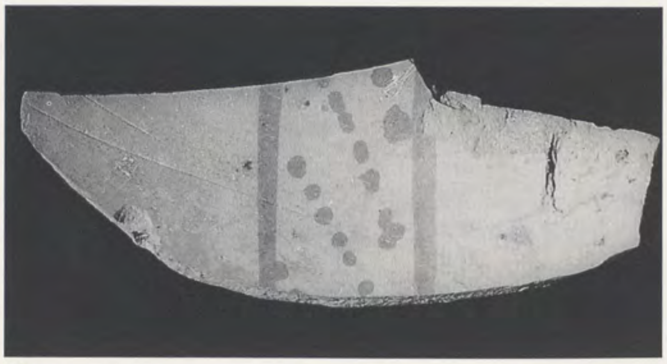

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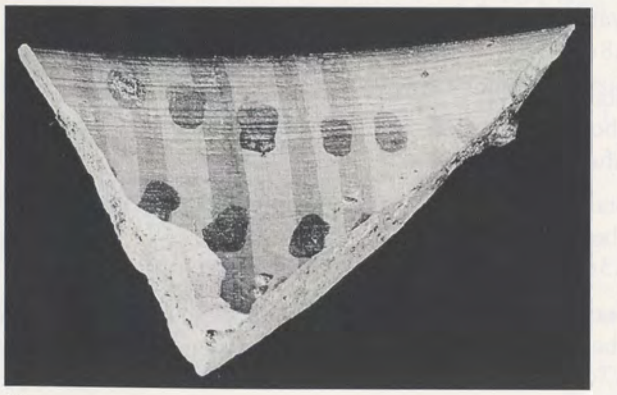

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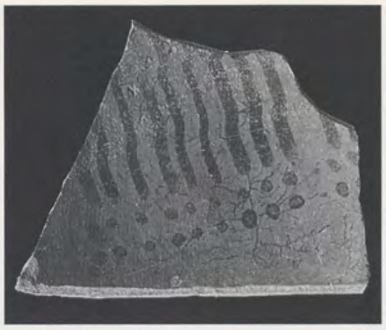
Decorated Pottery, Period I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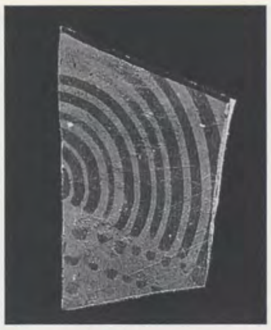
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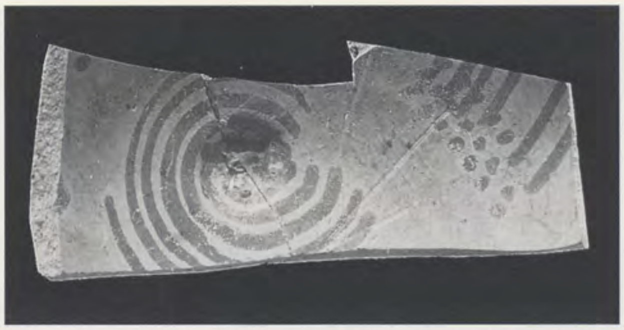
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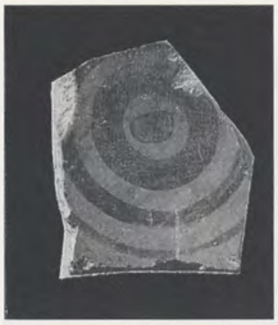
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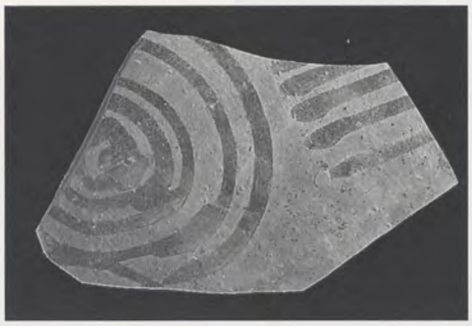
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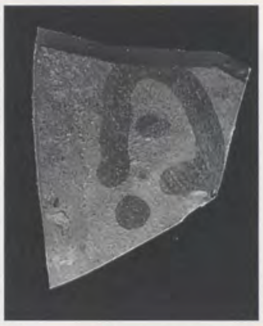
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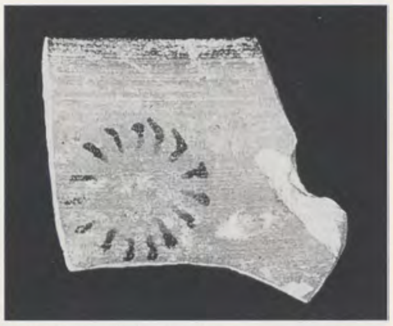
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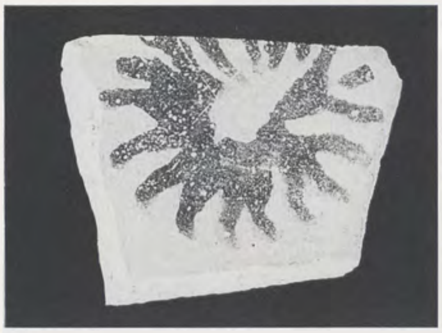
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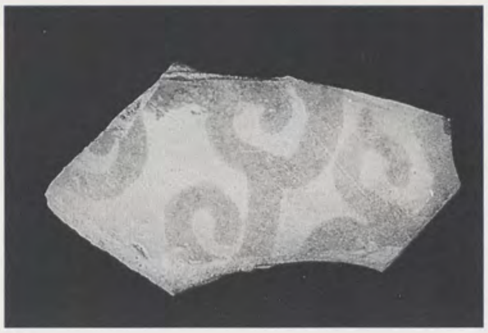
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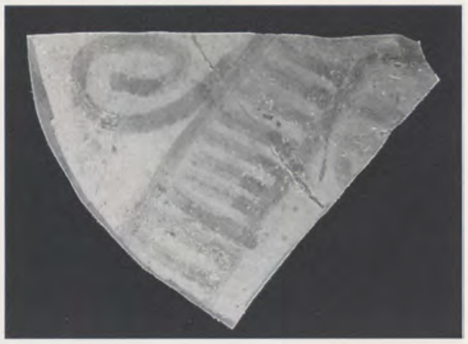
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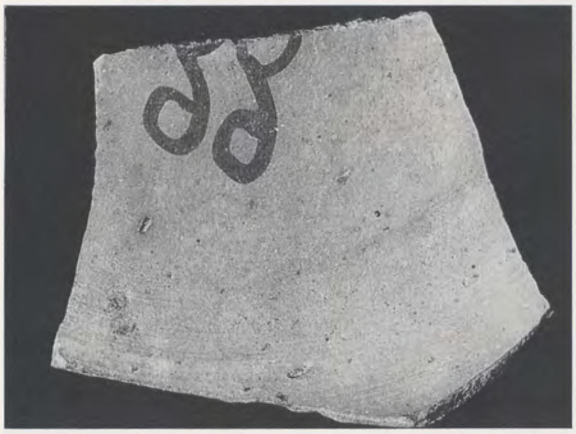
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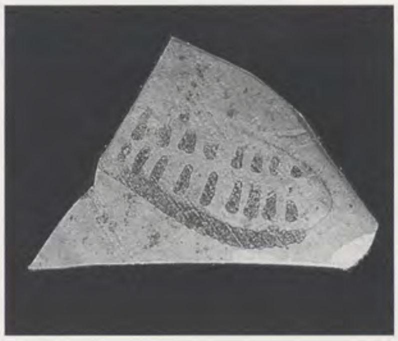
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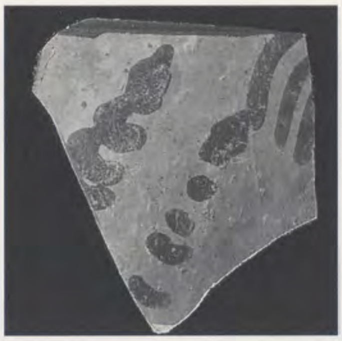
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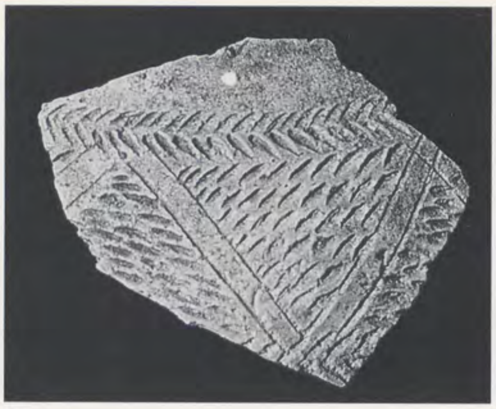
Decorated Pottery, Period I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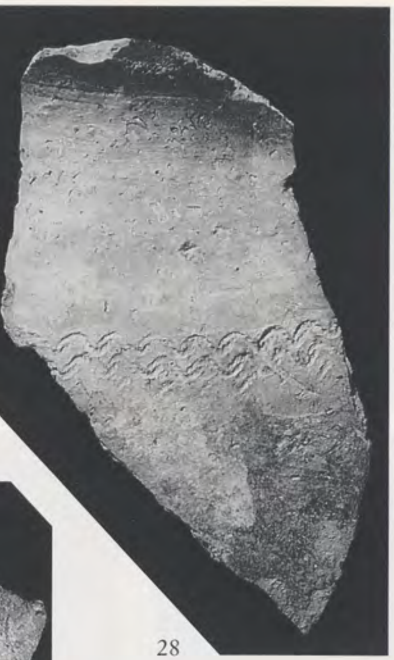
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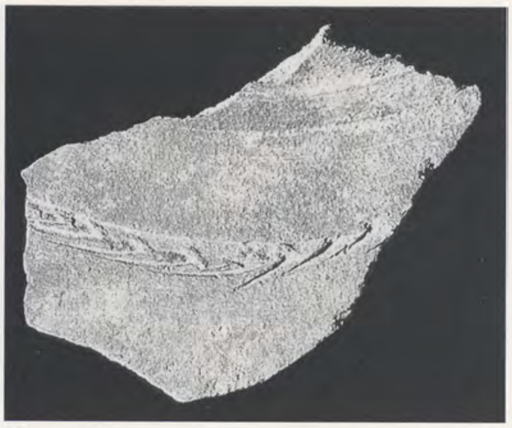
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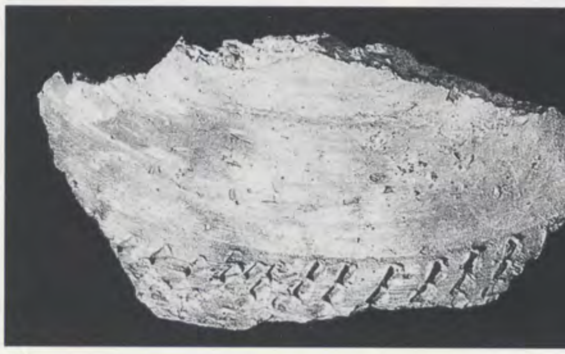
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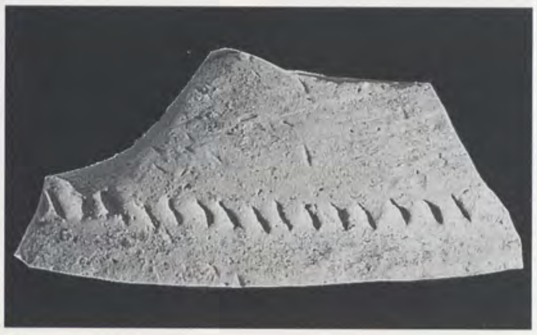
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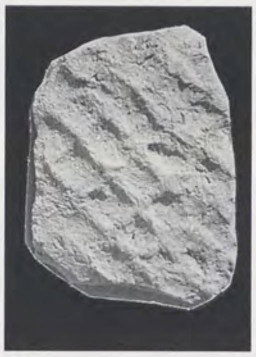
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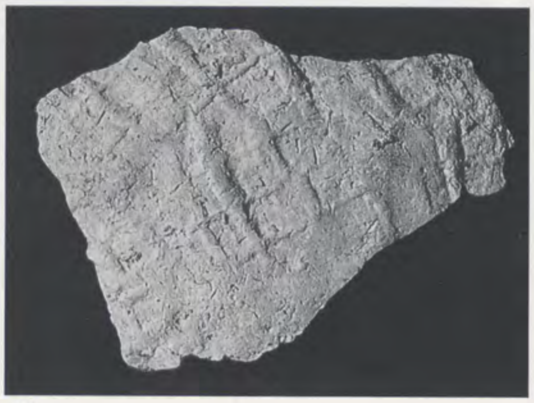
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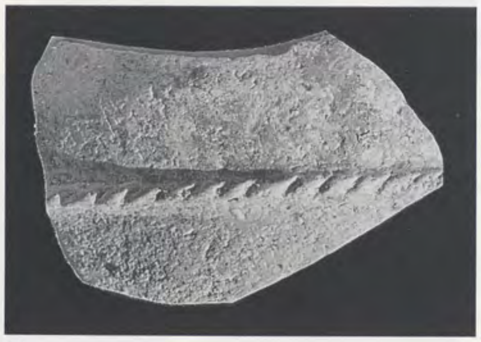
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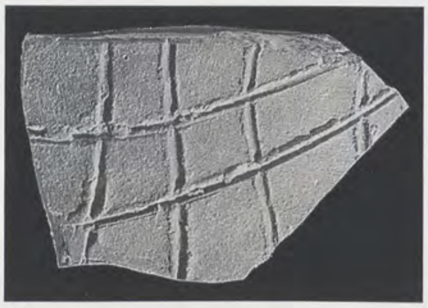
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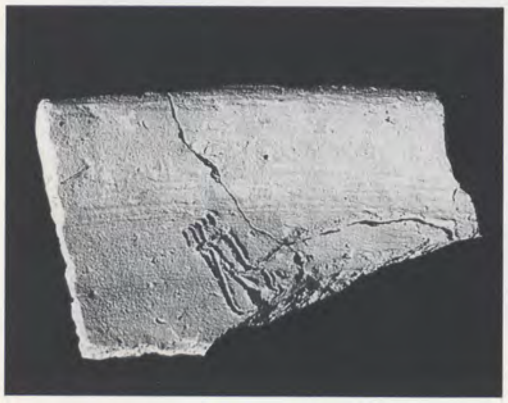
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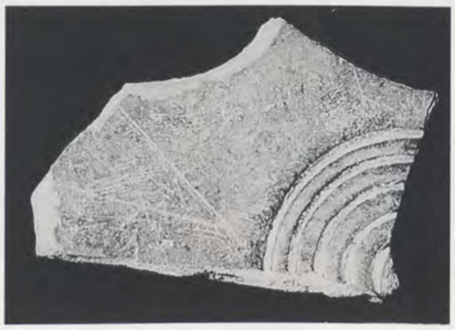
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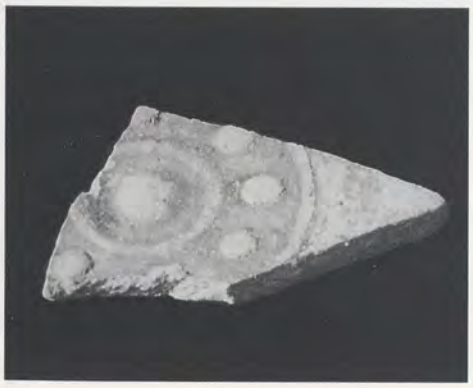
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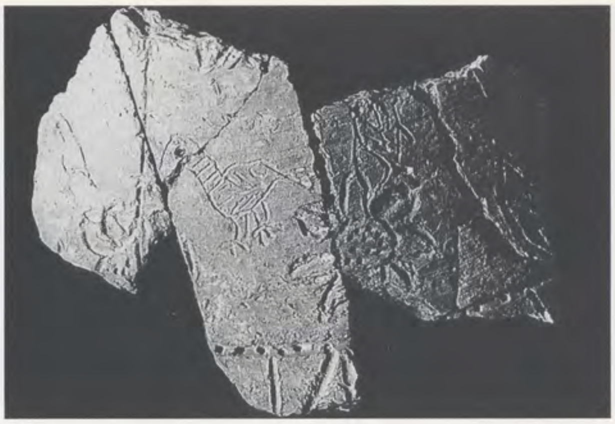
Decorated Pottery, Period I (27–34), Period II (35–38)



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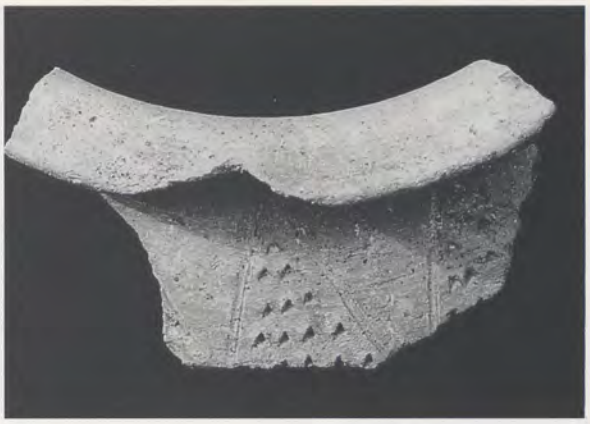

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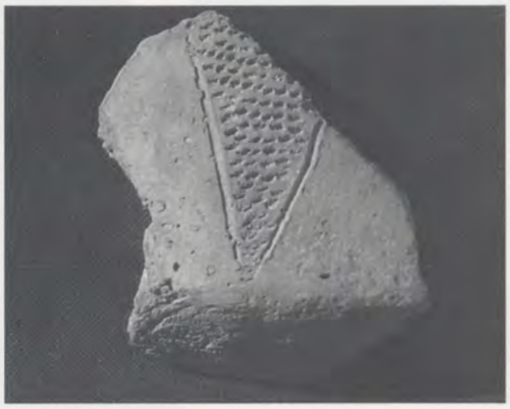

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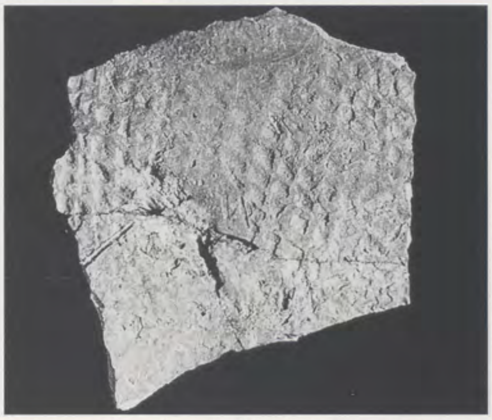

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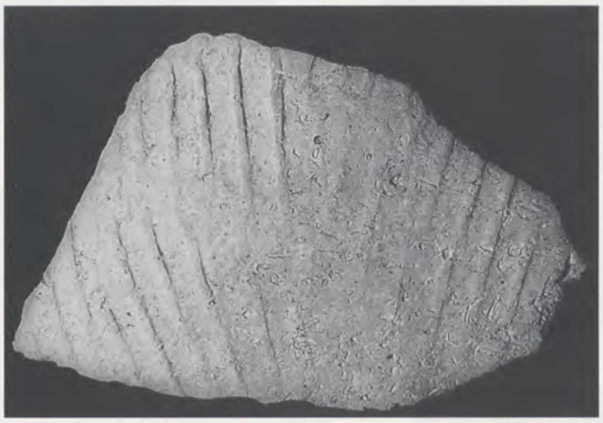

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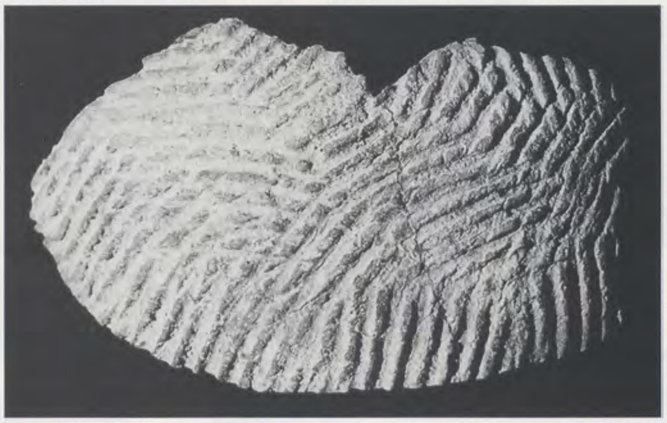

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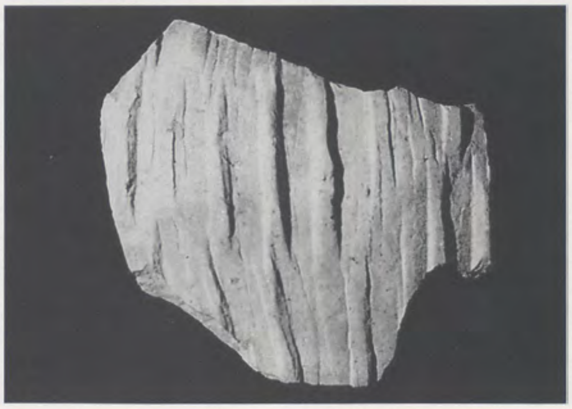

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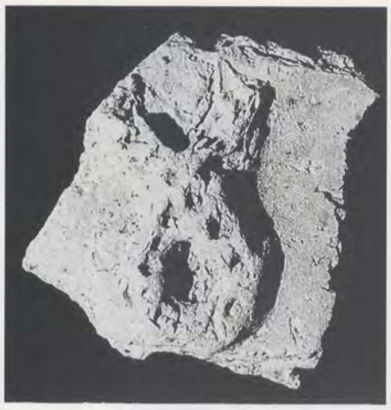
Decorated Pottery, Period III



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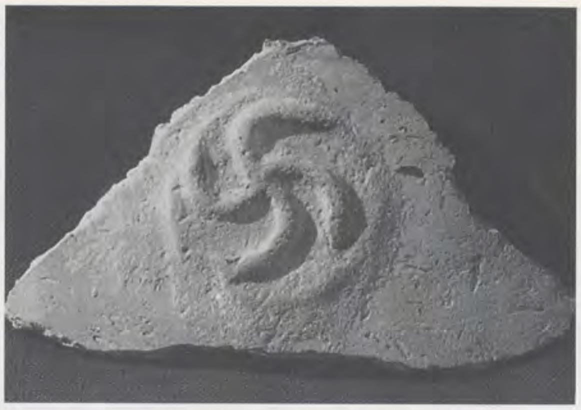

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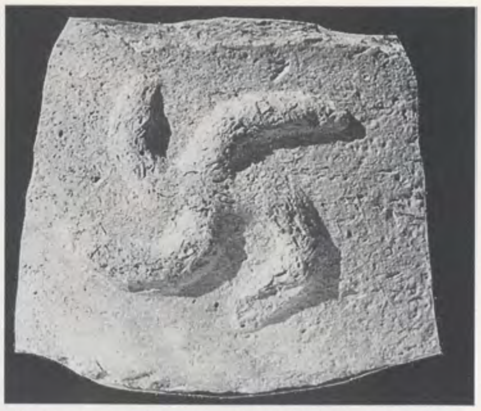

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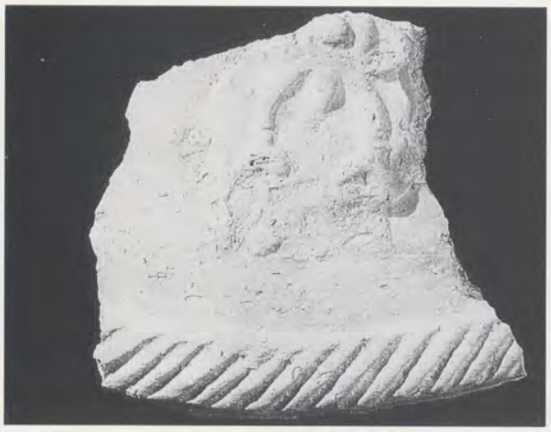

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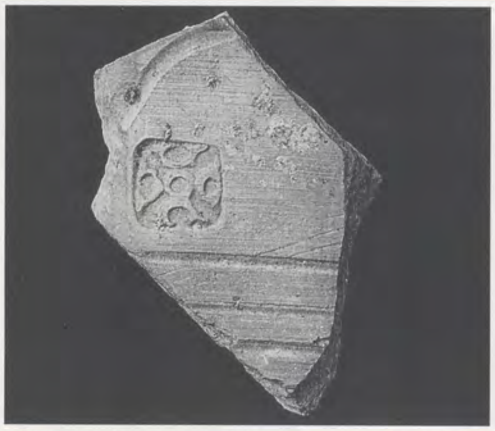

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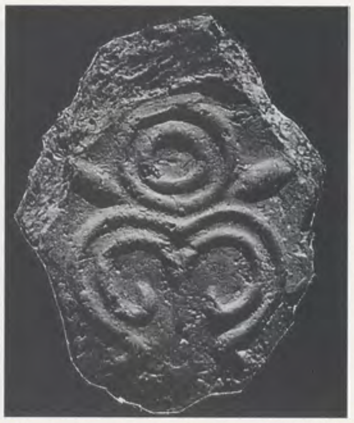

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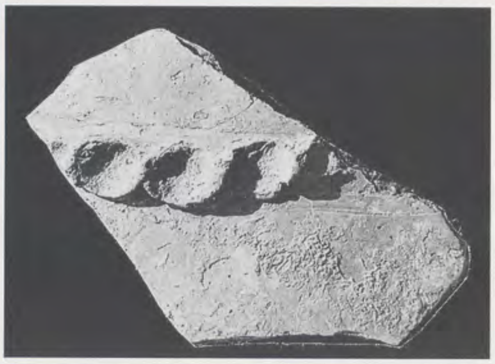

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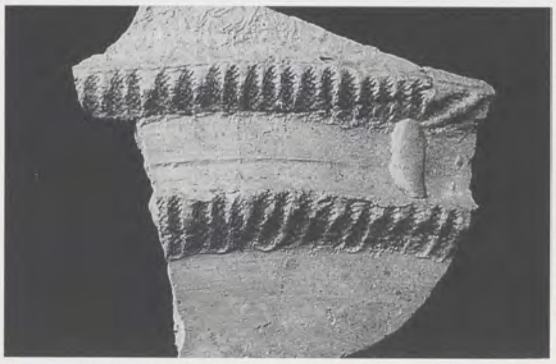

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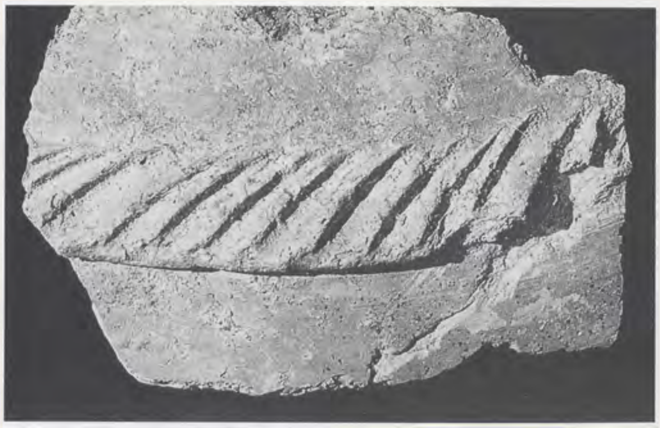

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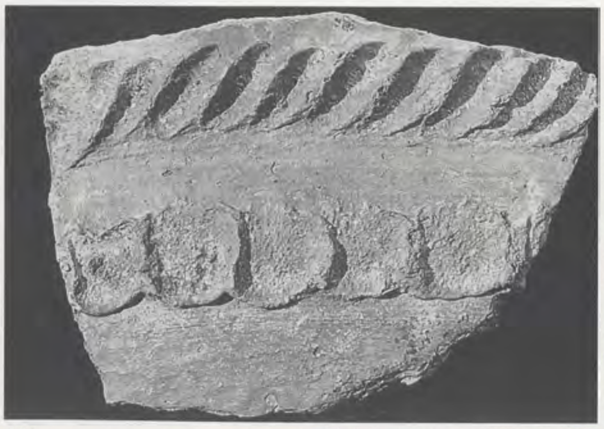

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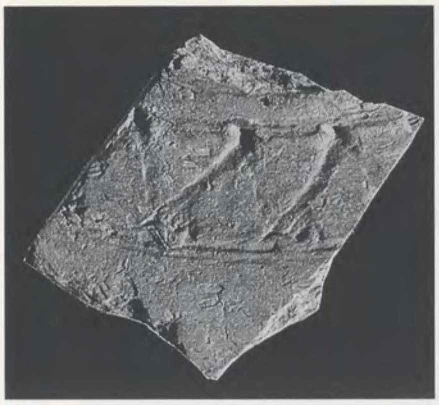
Decorated Pottery, Period III



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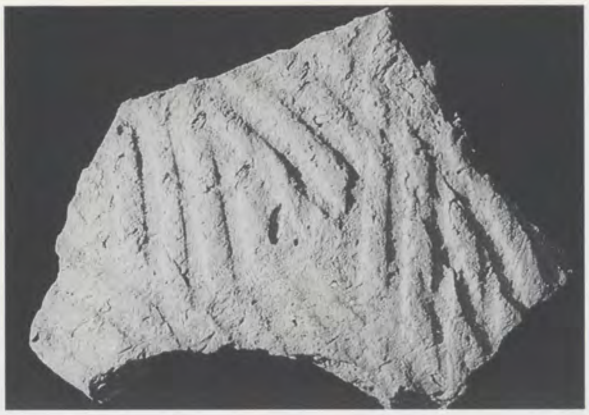

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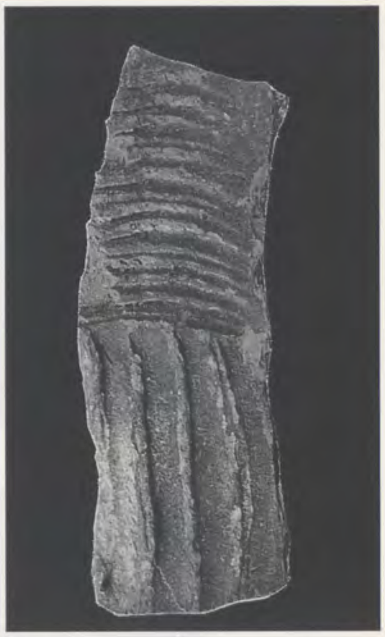

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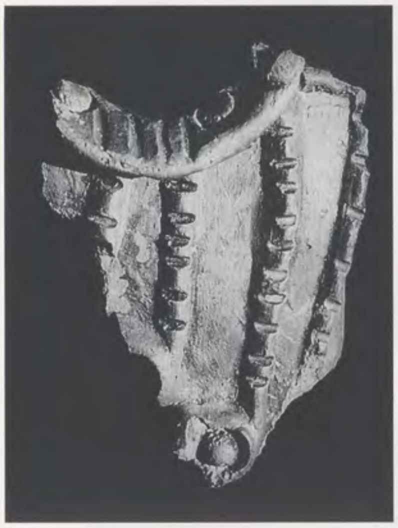

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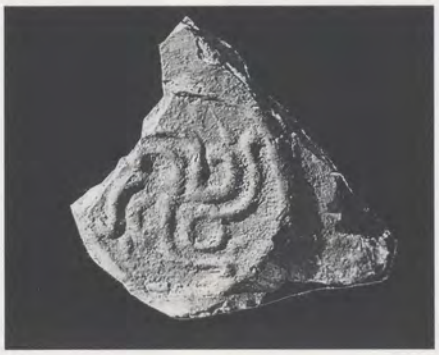

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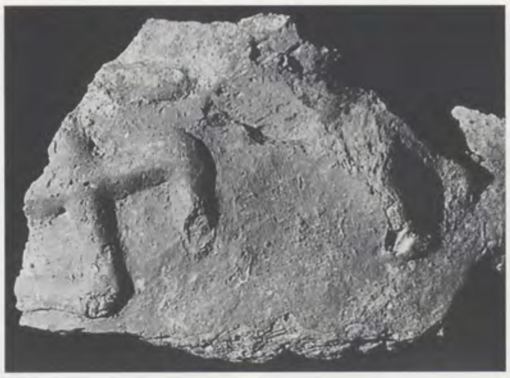

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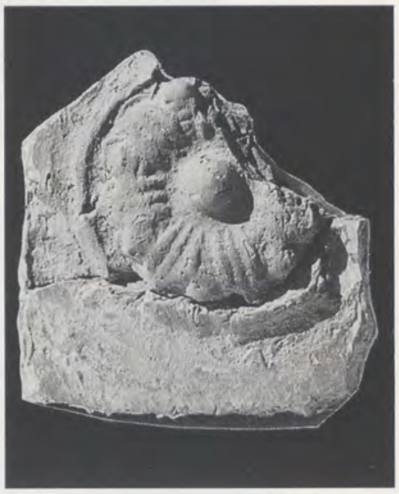

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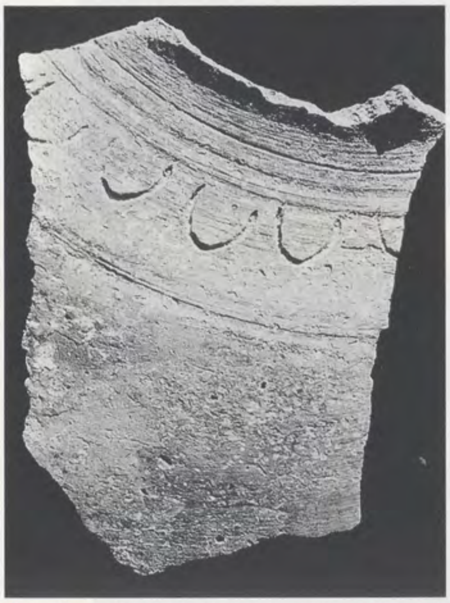

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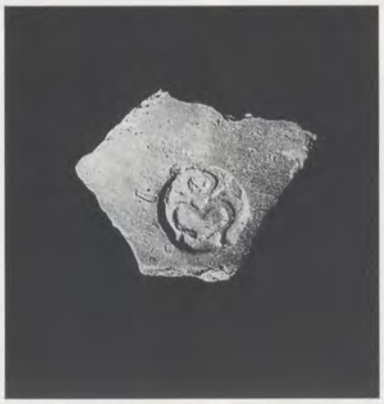

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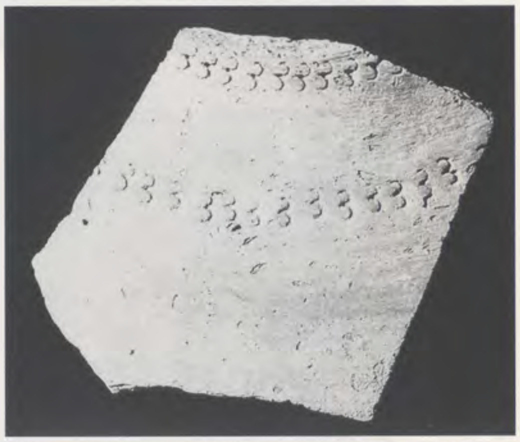

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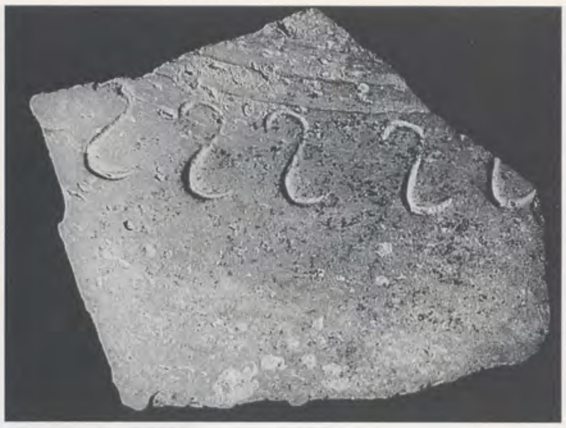
Decorated Pottery, Period IV



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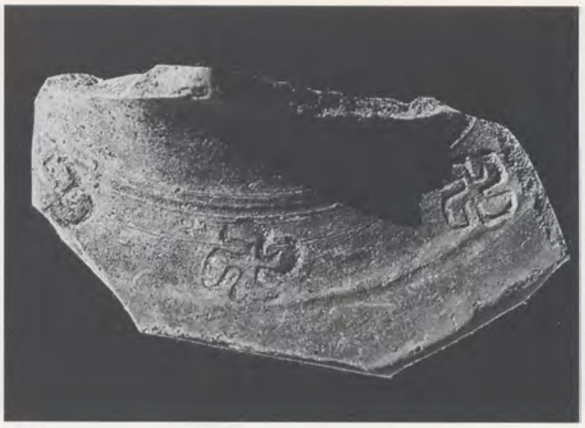

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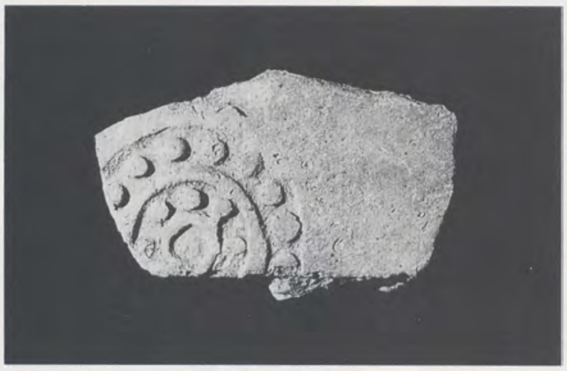

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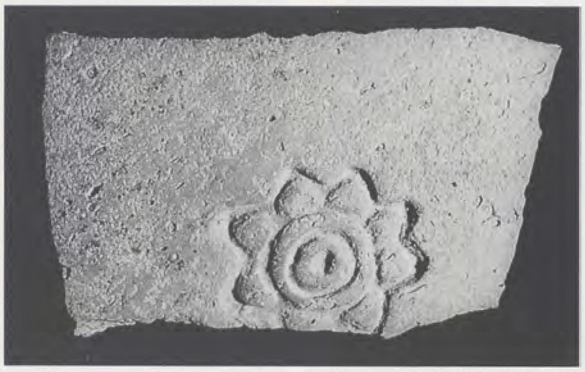

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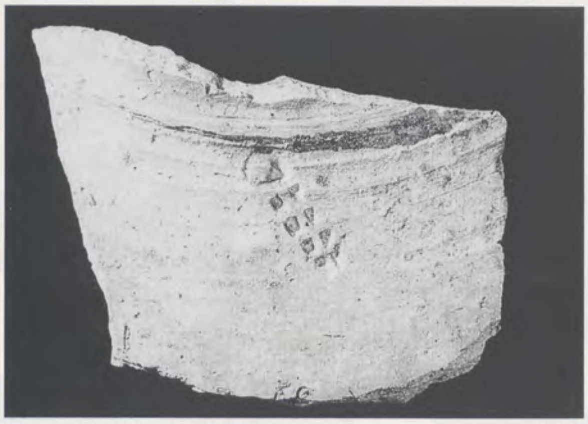

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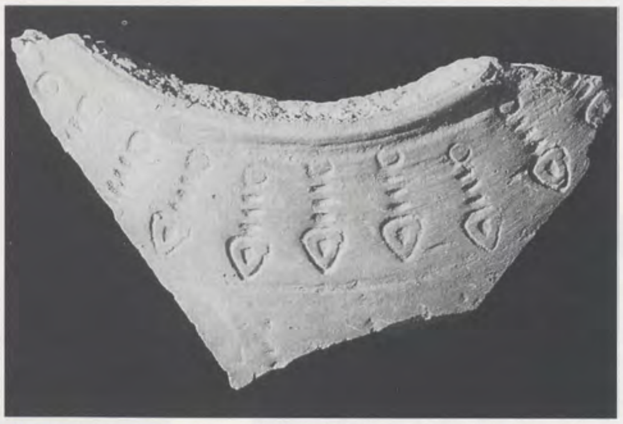

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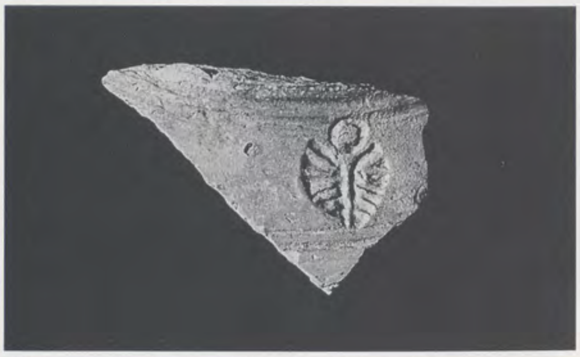

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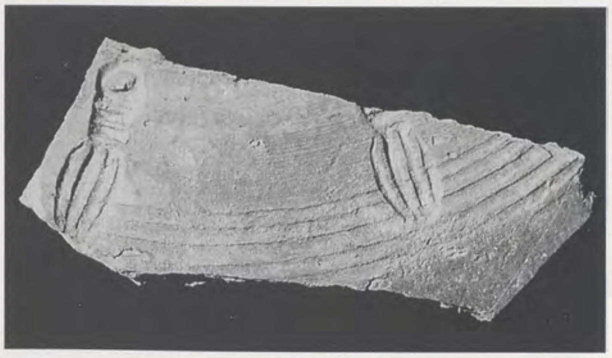

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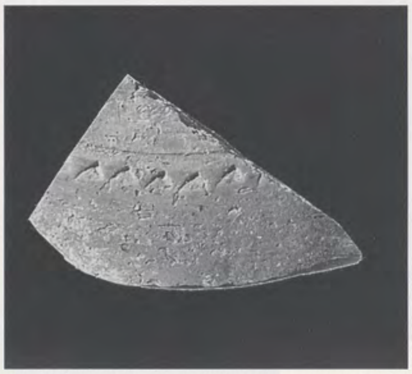
Decorated Pottery, Period IV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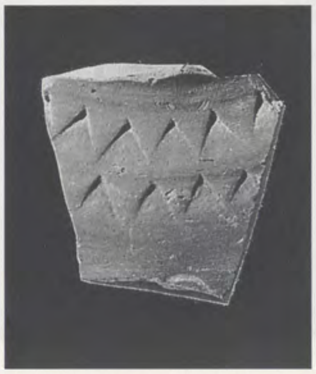
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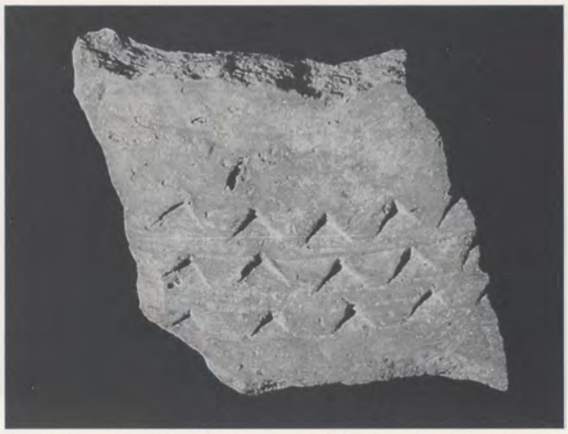
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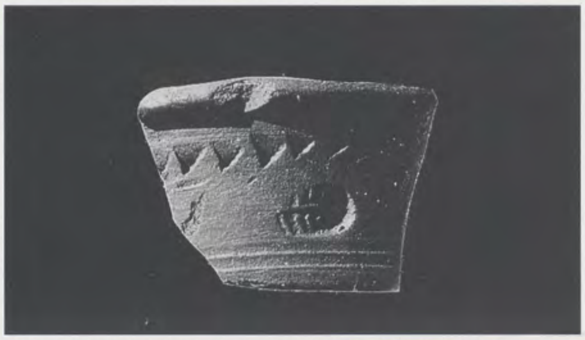
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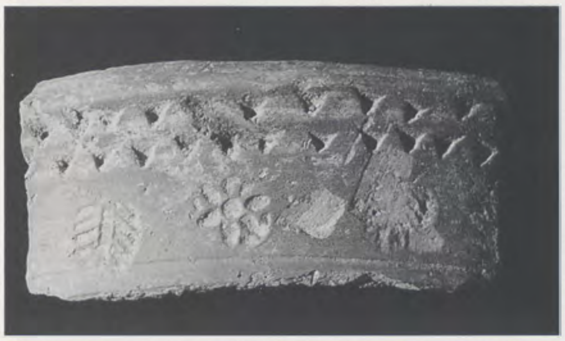
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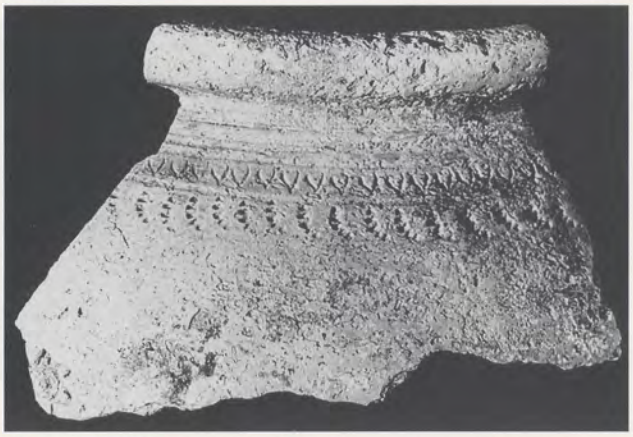
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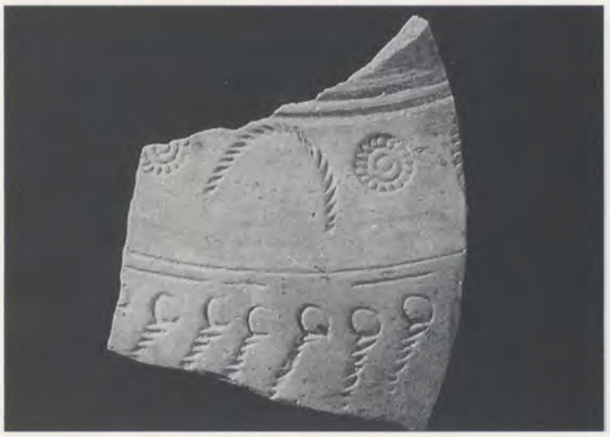
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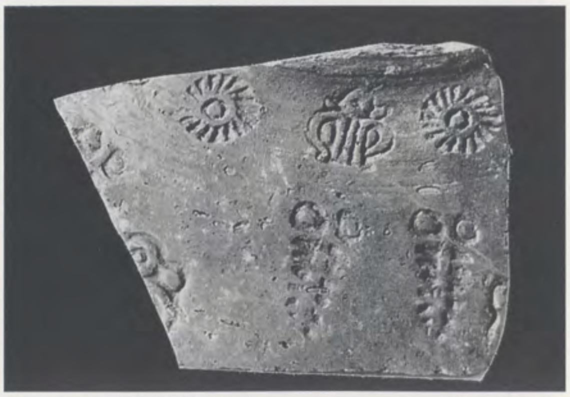
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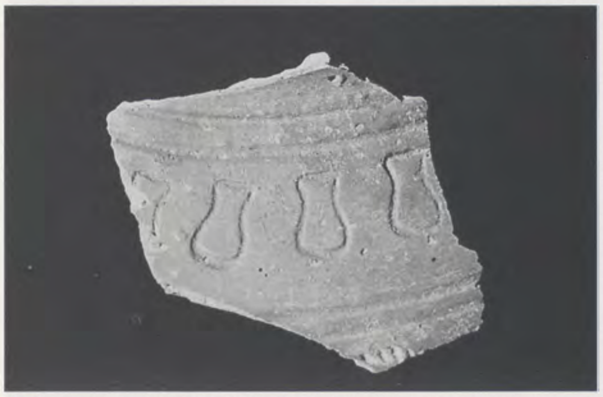
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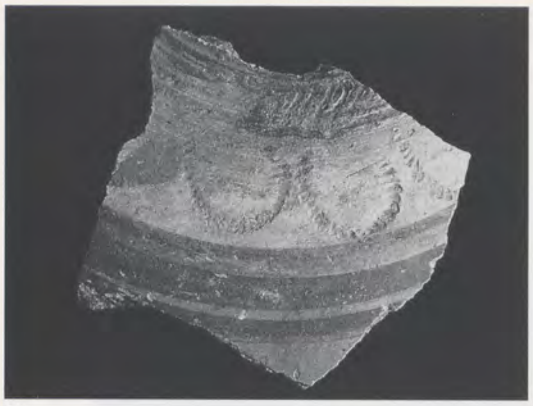
Decorated Pottery, Period IV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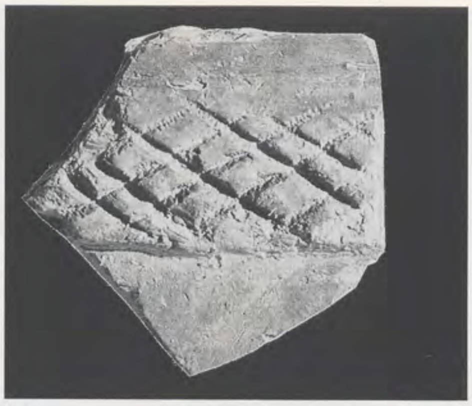
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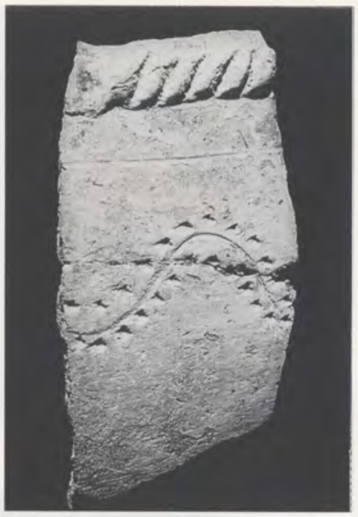
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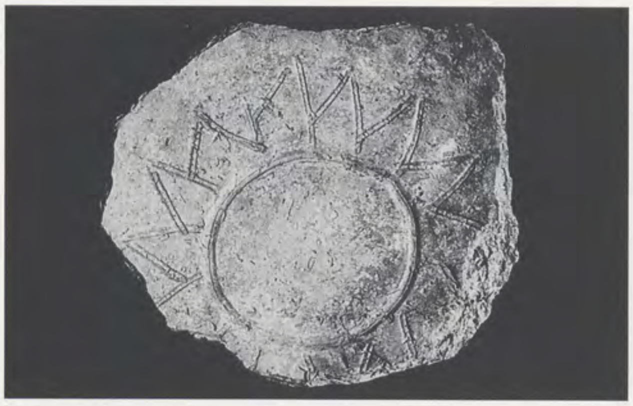
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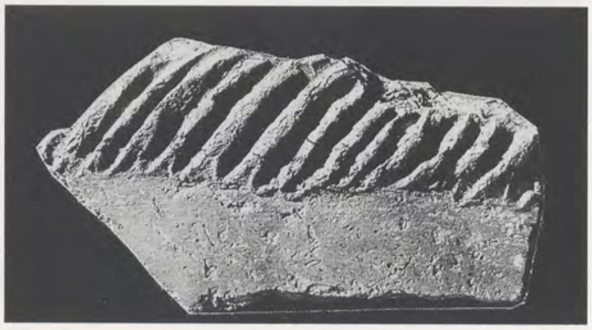
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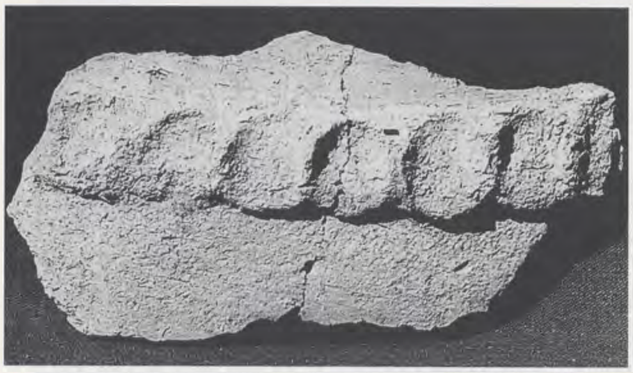
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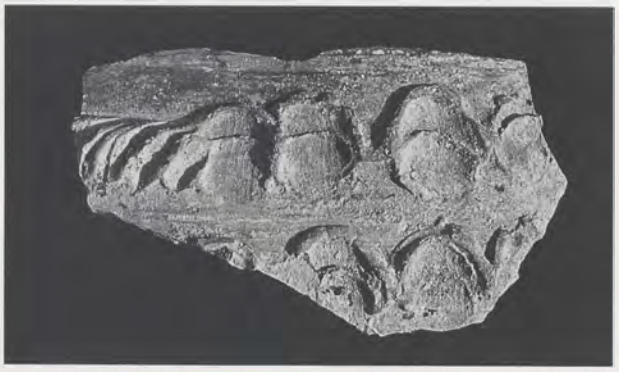
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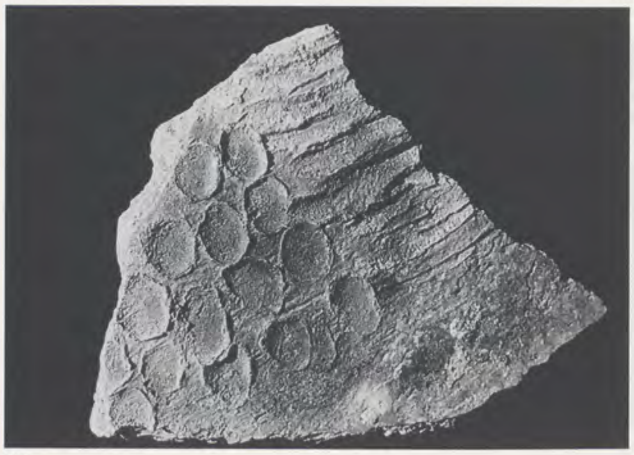
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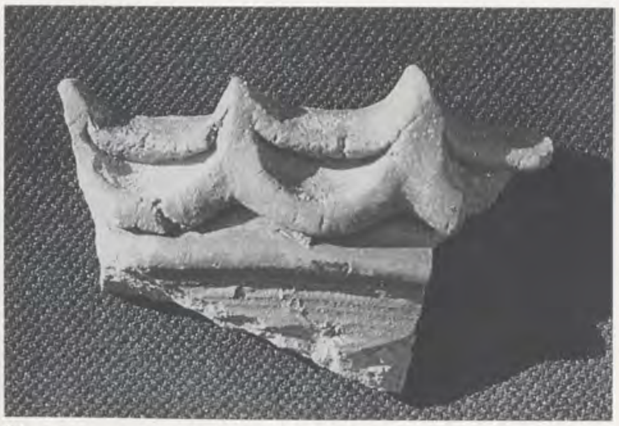
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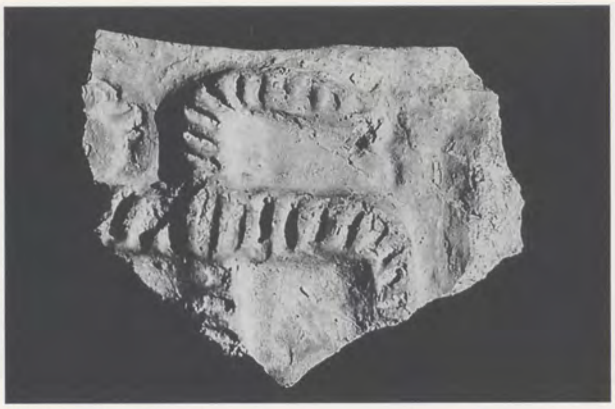
Decorated Pottery, Period V



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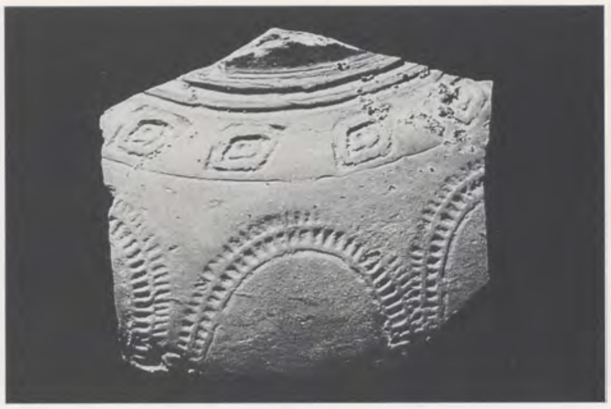

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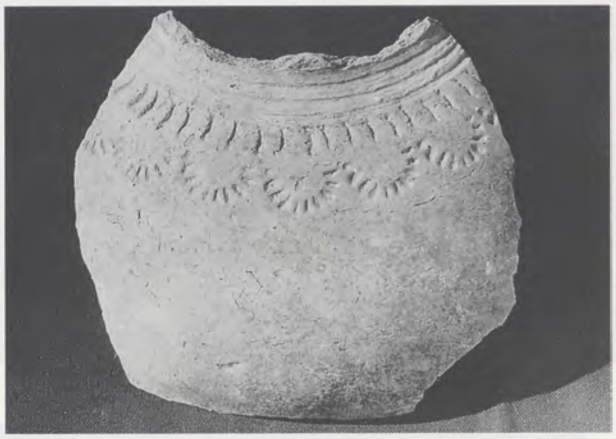

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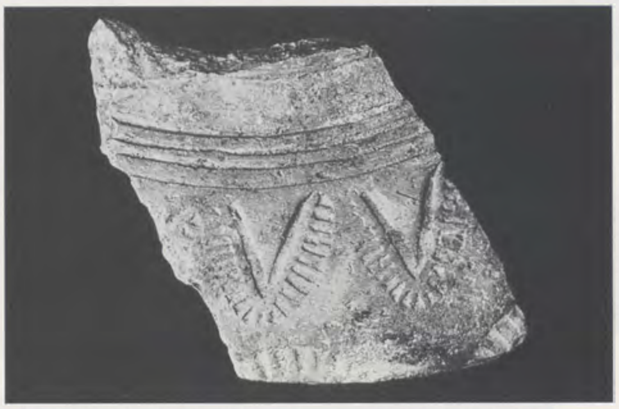

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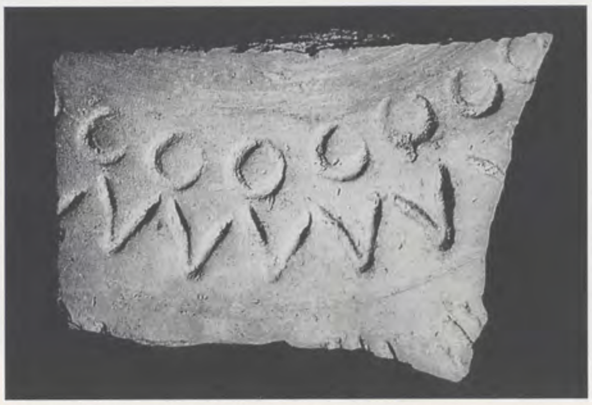

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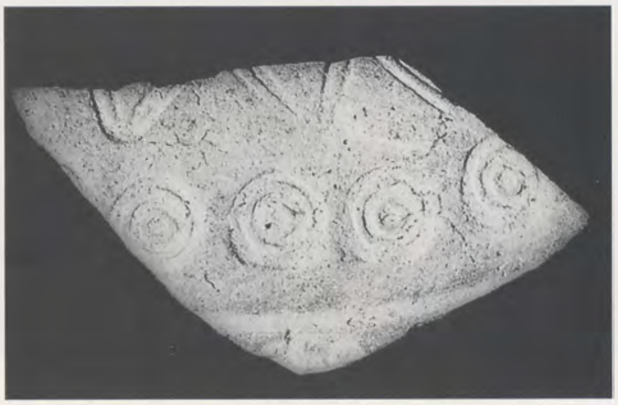

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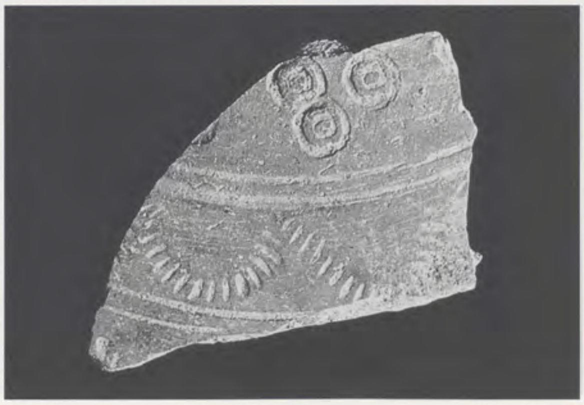

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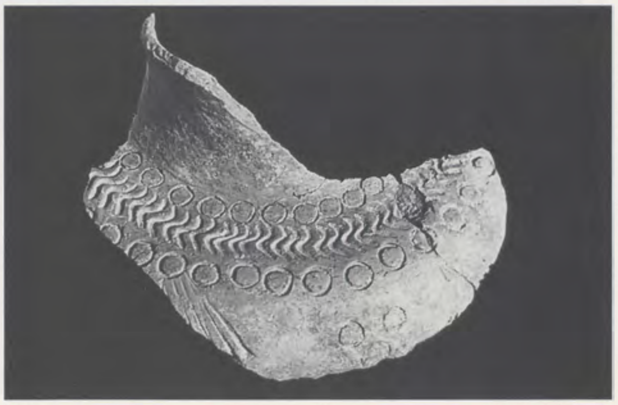

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Decorated Pottery, Period V

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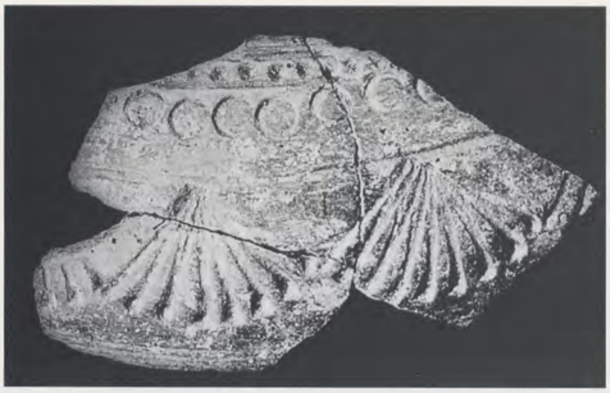
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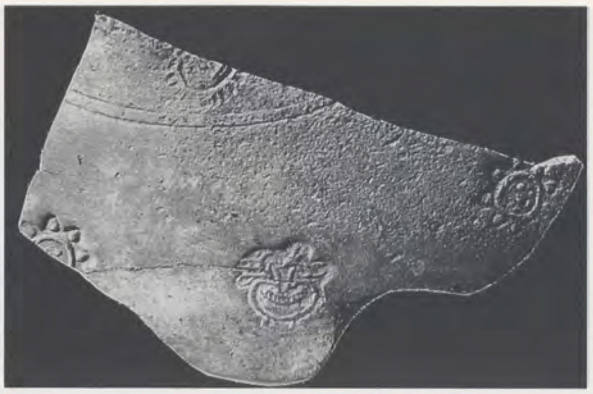
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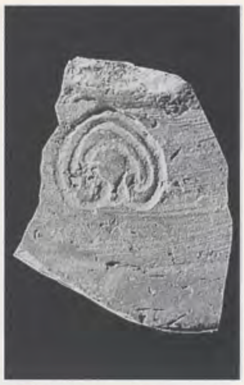
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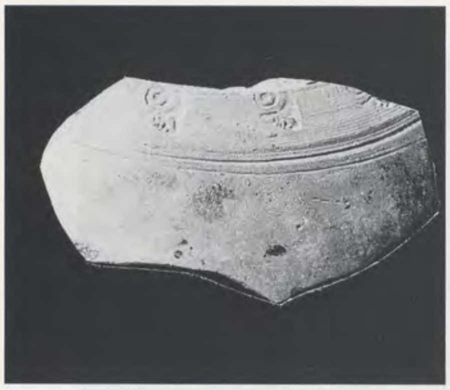
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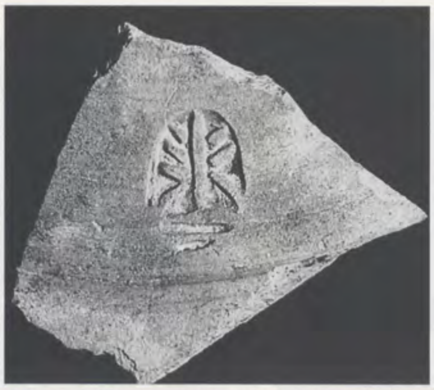
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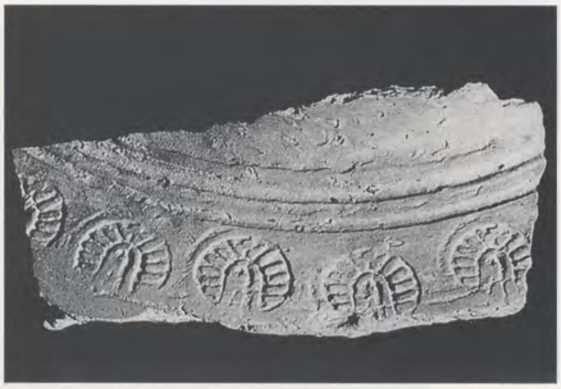
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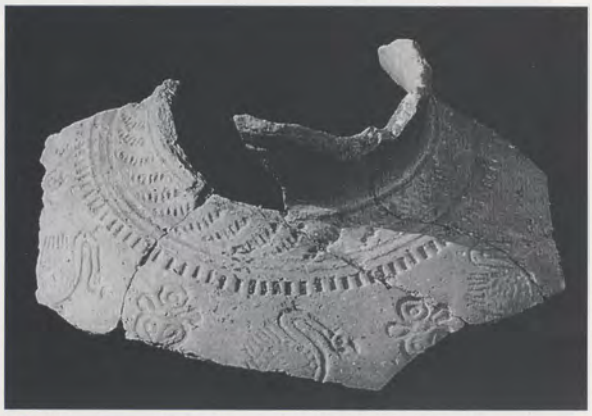
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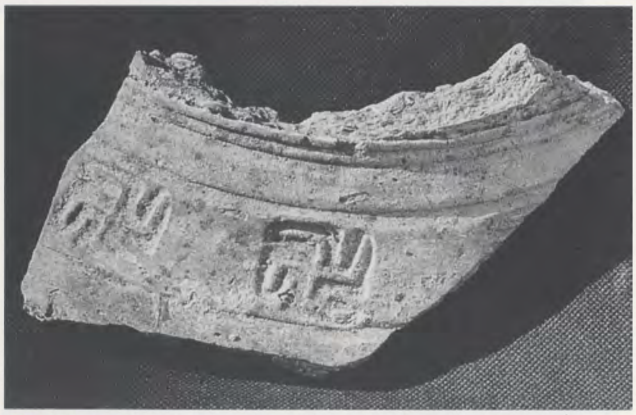
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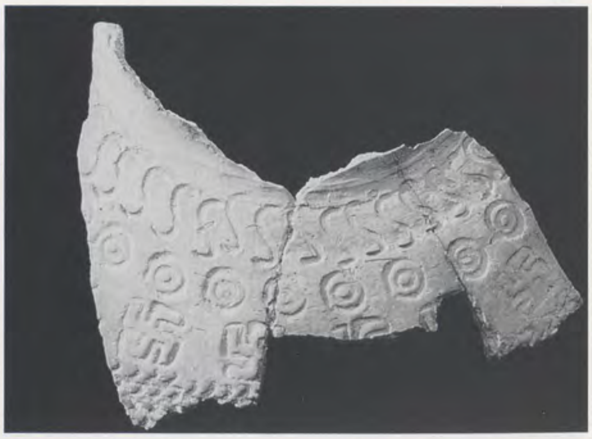
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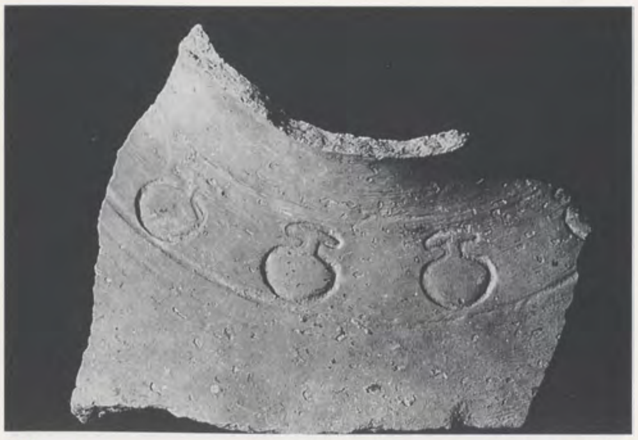
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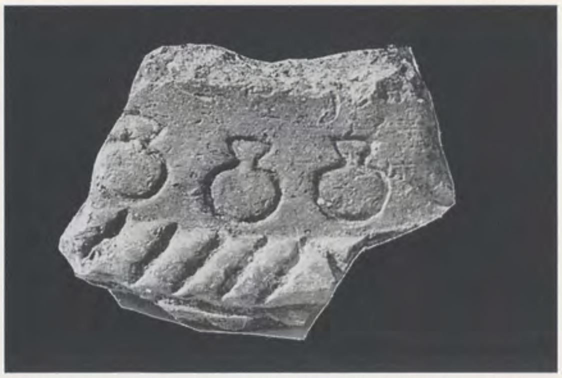
Decorated Pottery, Period V



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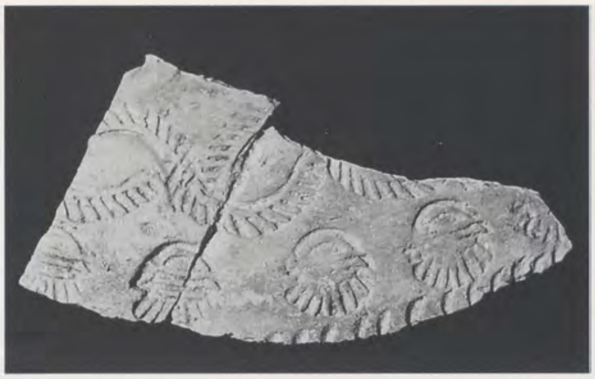

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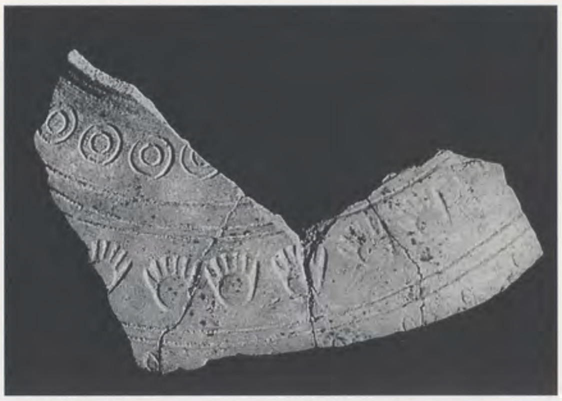

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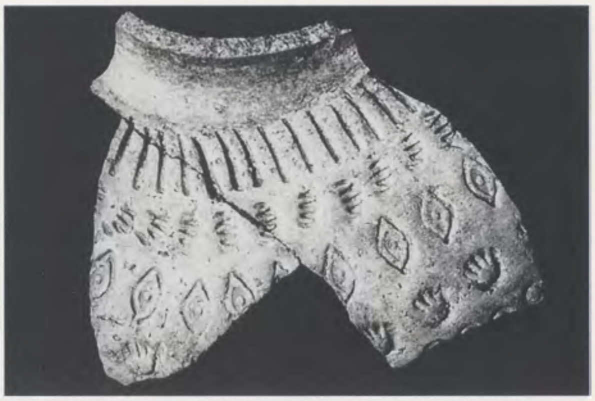

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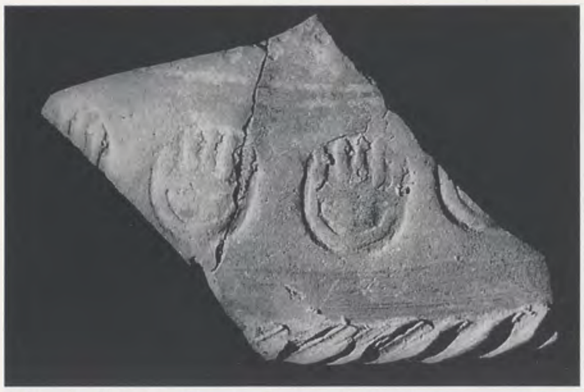

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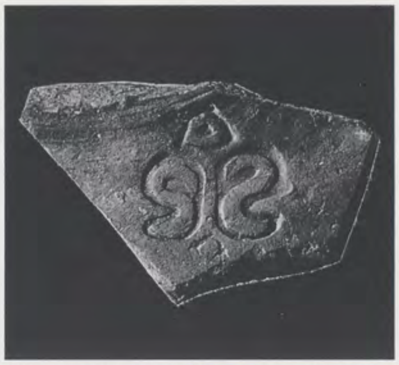

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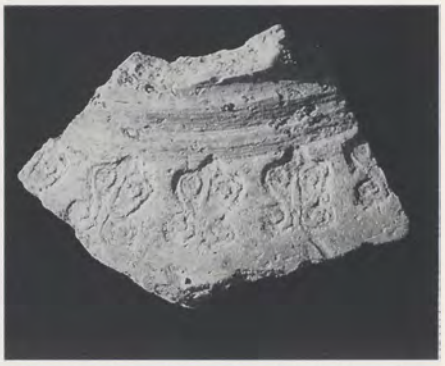

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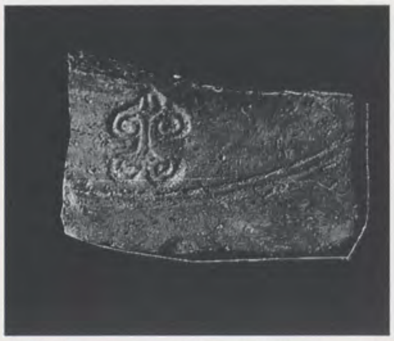

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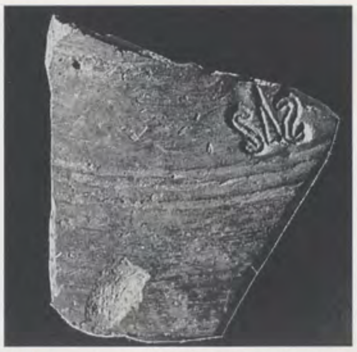

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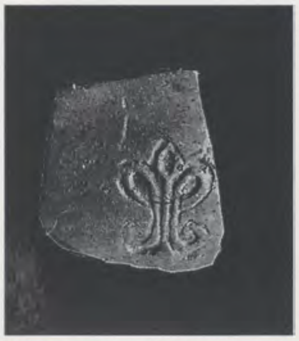
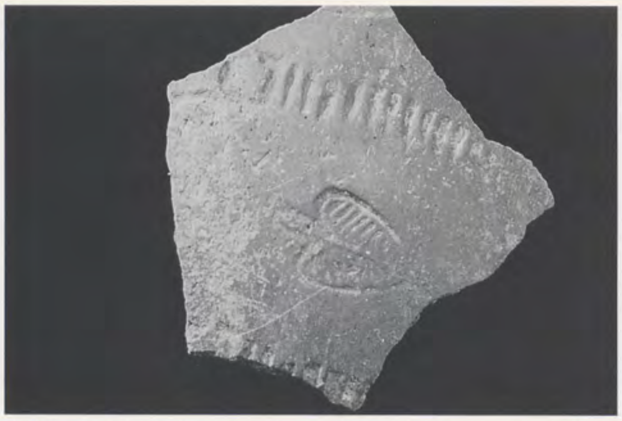


119

Decorated Pottery, Period V



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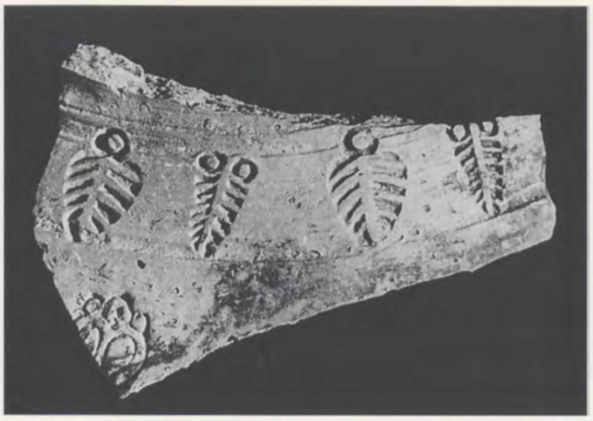

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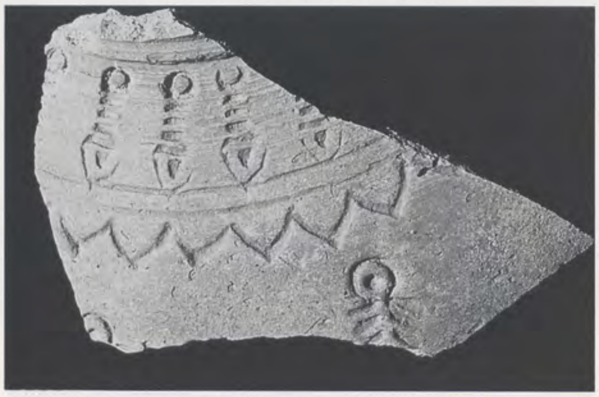

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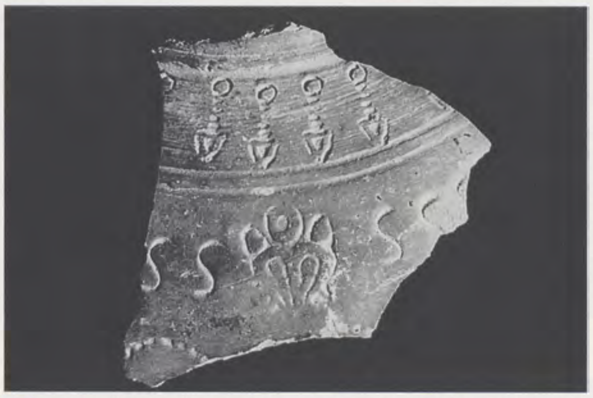

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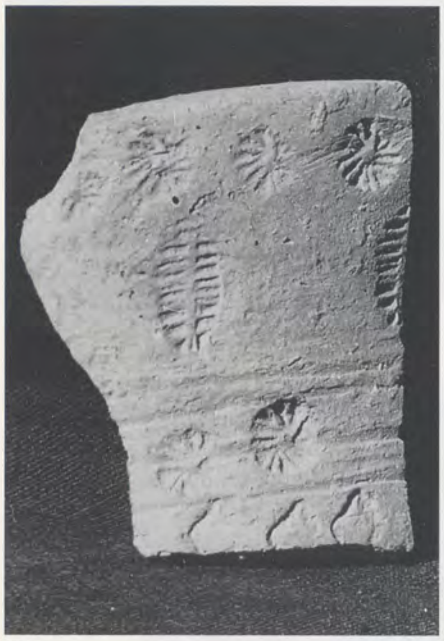

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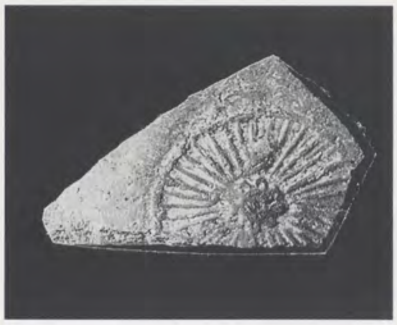

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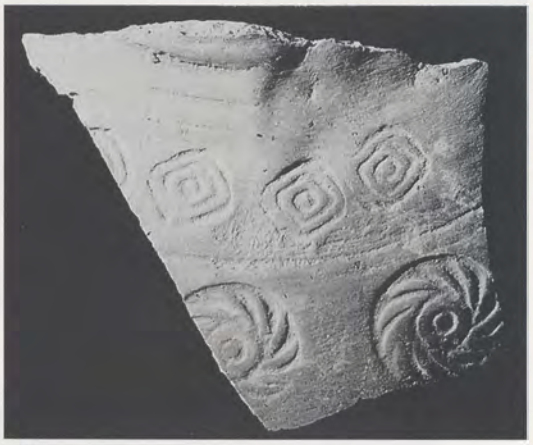

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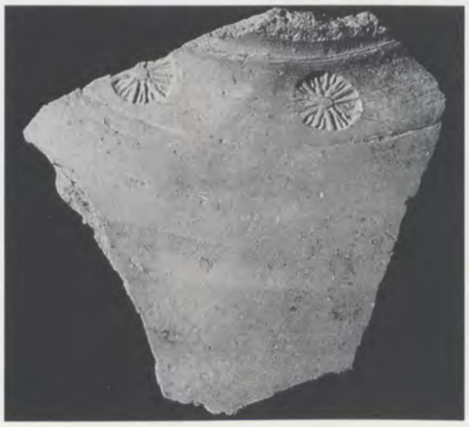

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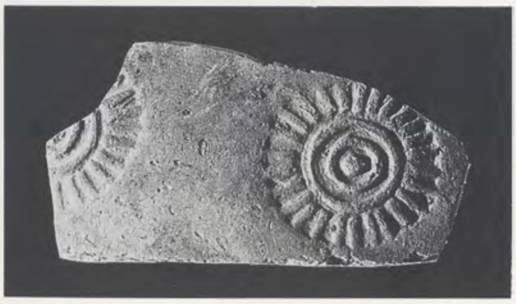

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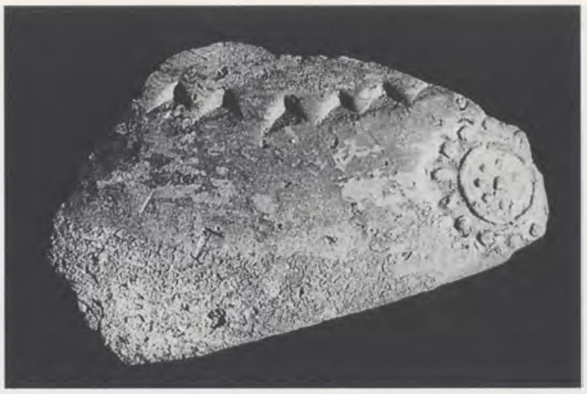
Decorated Pottery, Period V



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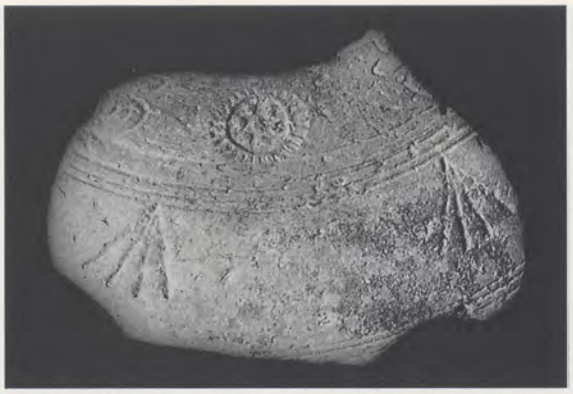

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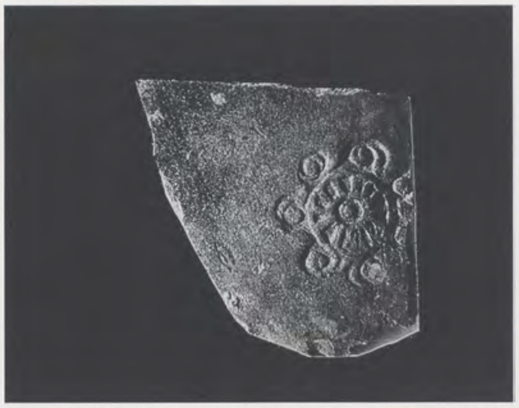

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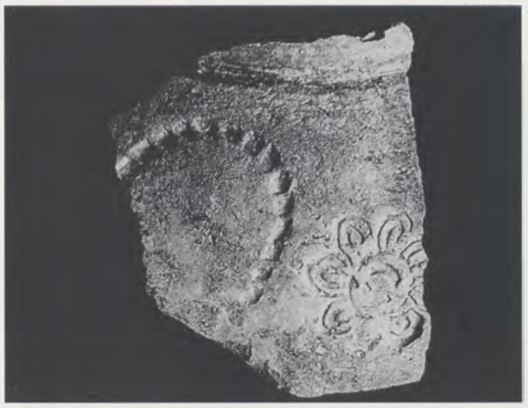

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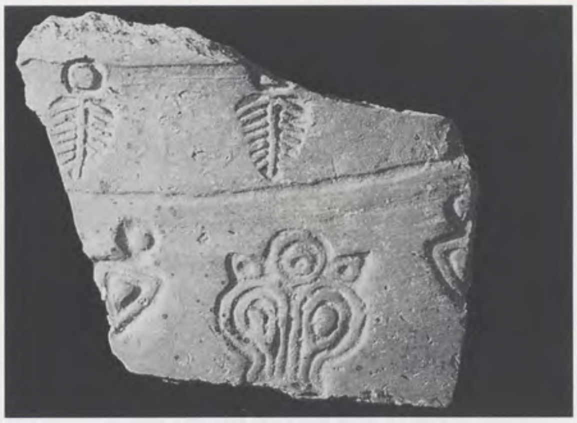

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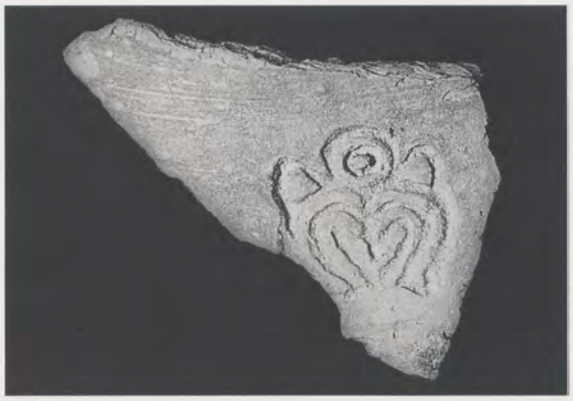

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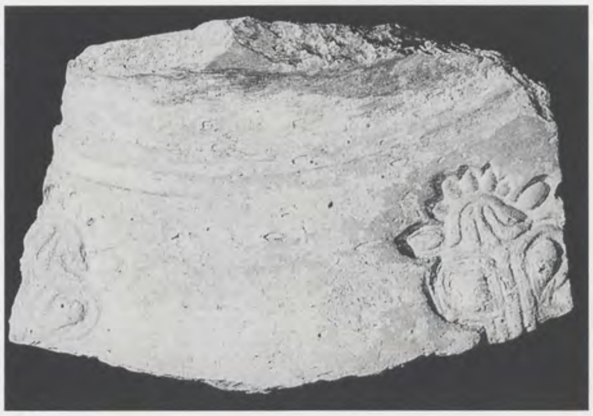

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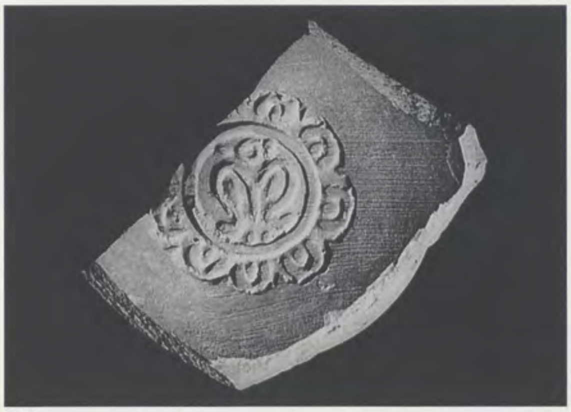

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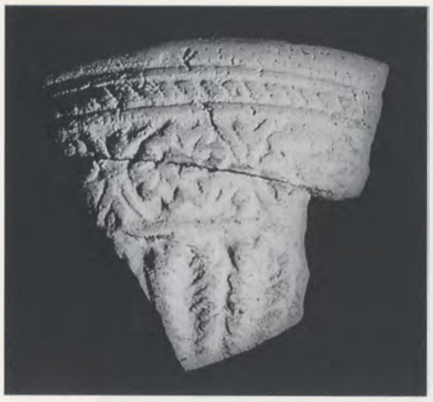
Decorated Pottery, Period V



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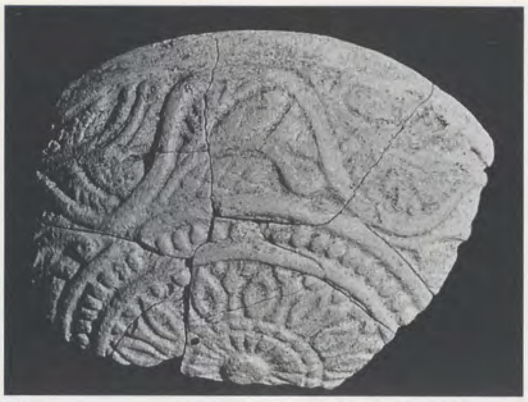

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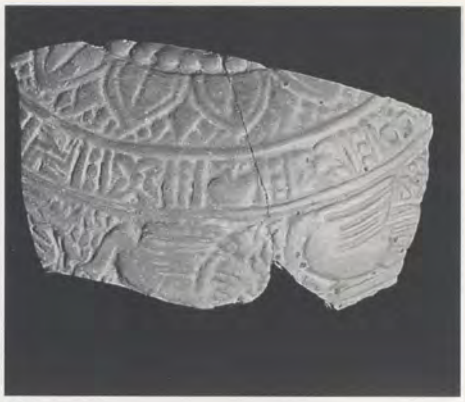

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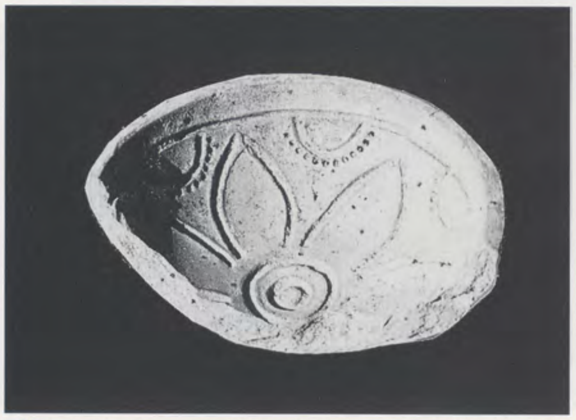

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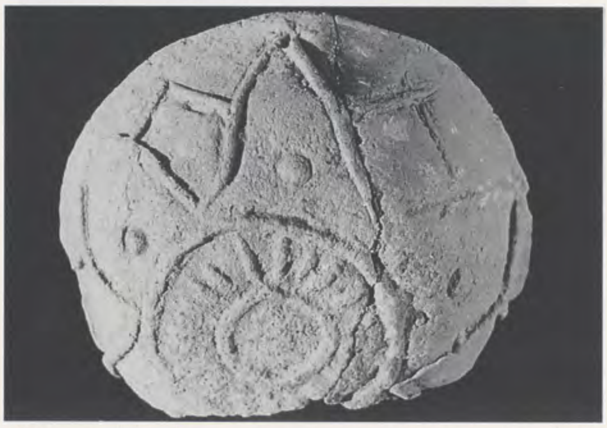

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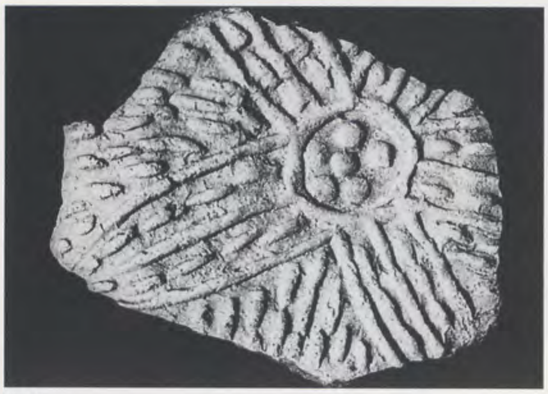

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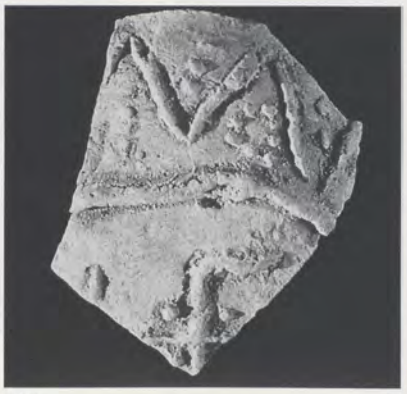

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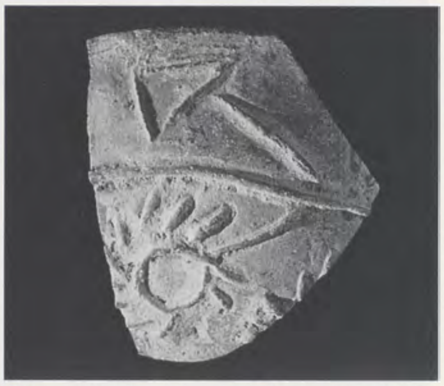

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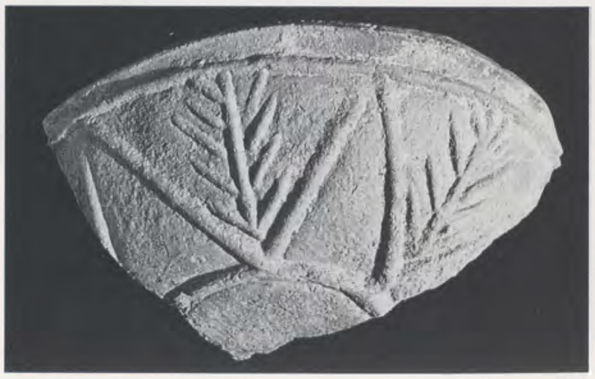

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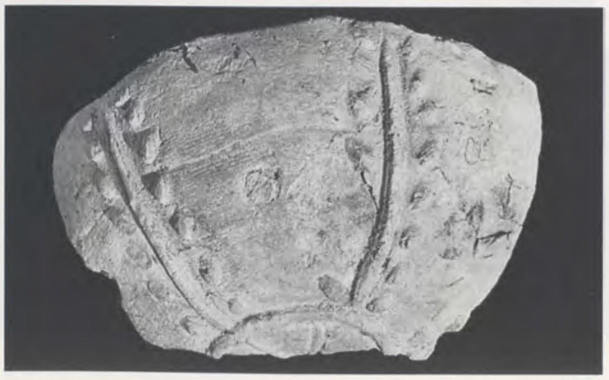

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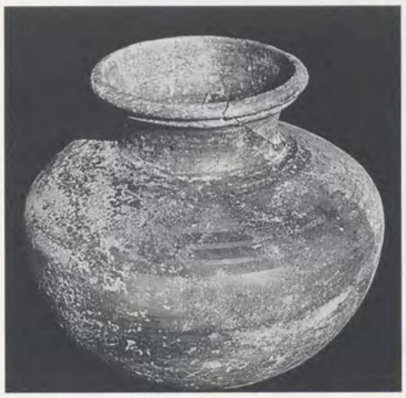
Decorated Pottery, Period V



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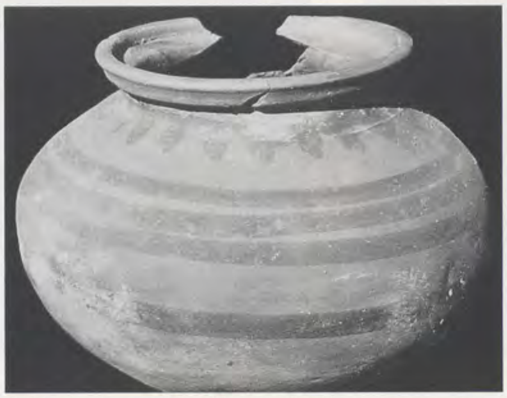

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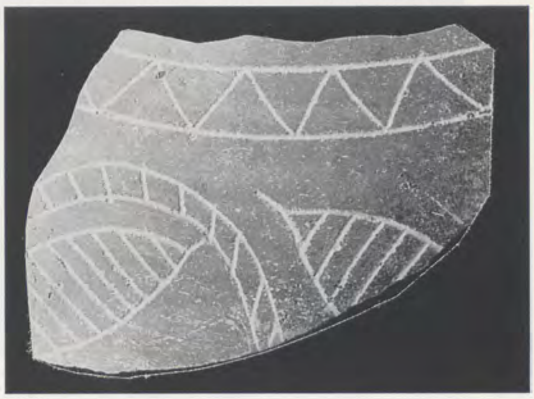

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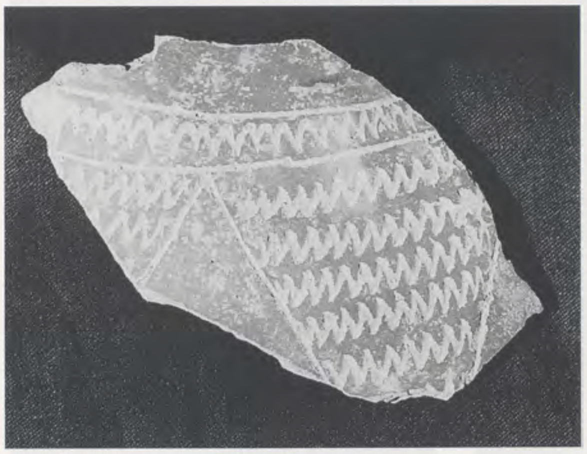

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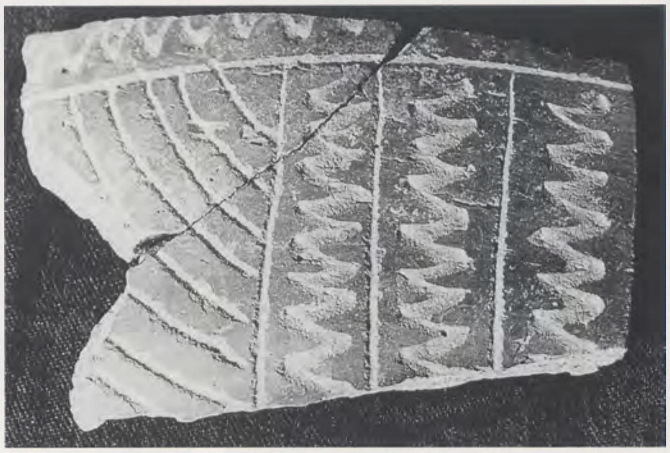

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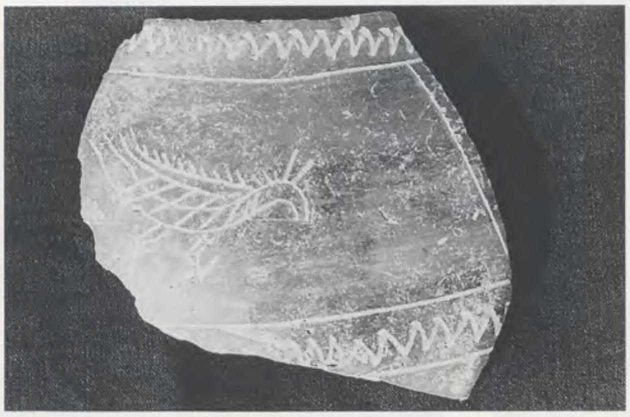

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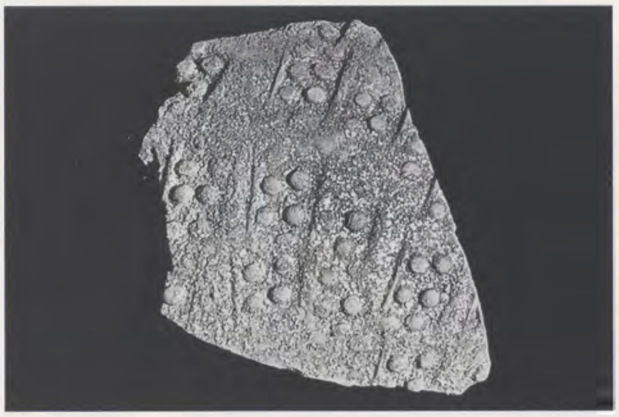
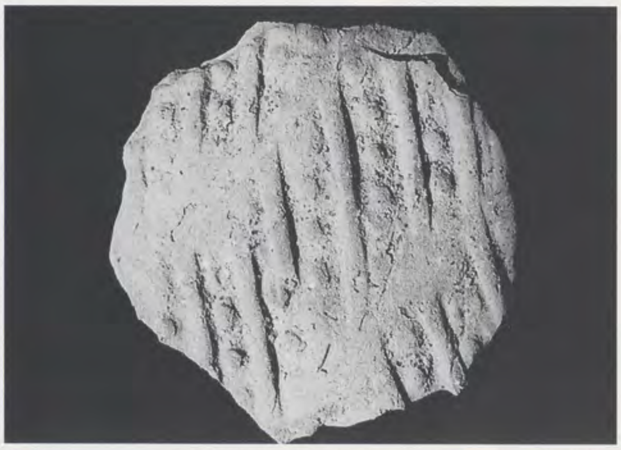


153

Decorated Pottery, Period VI



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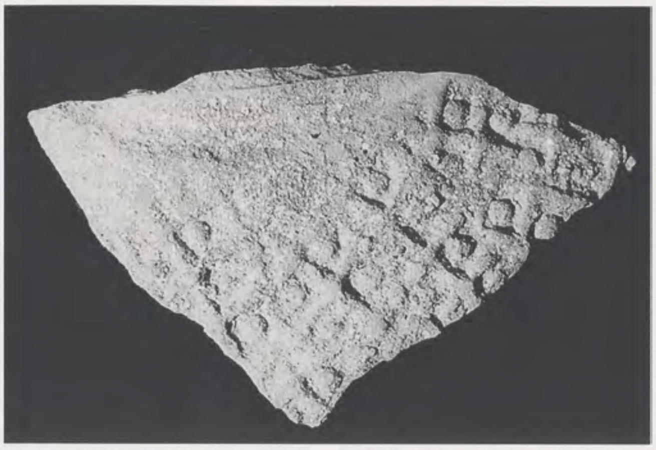

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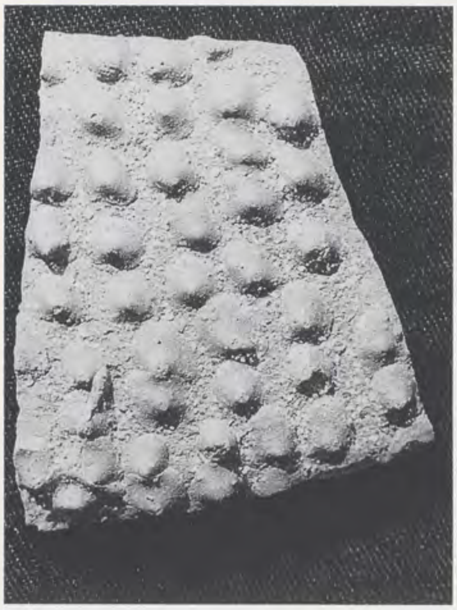

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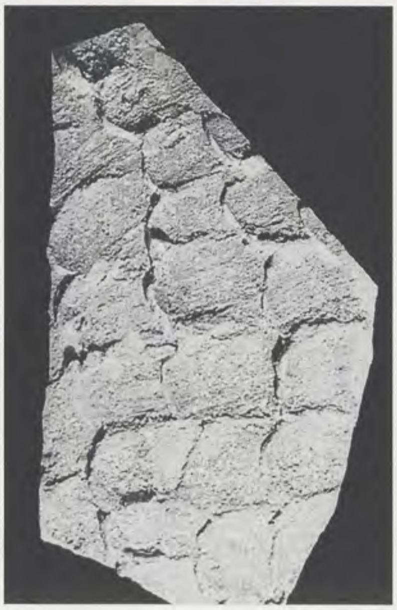

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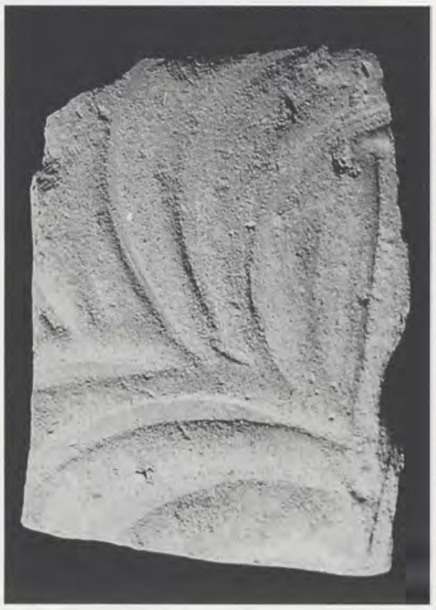

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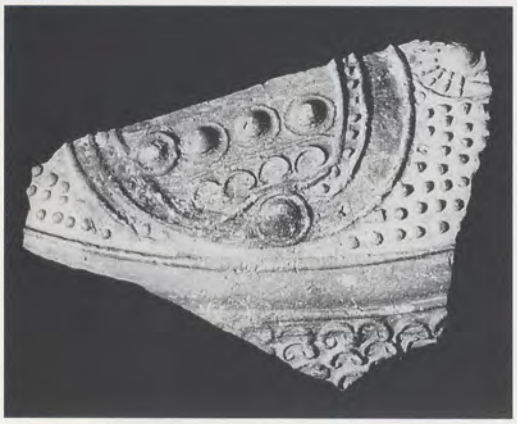

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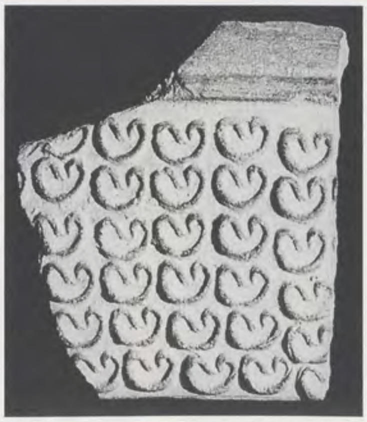

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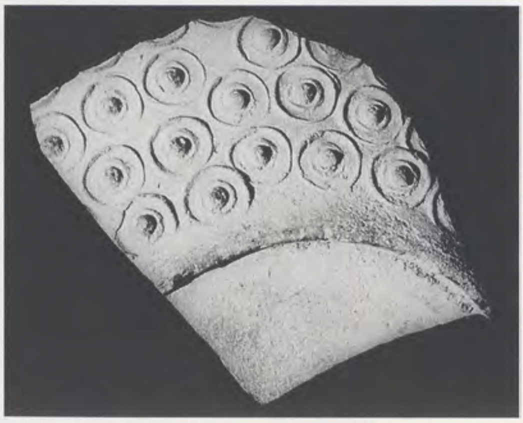

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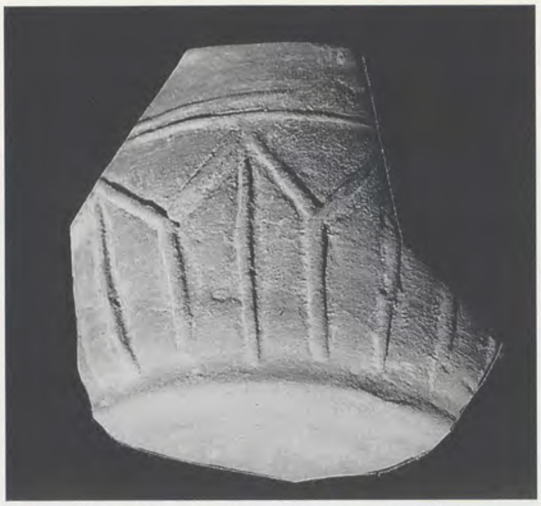
Decorated Pottery, Period VI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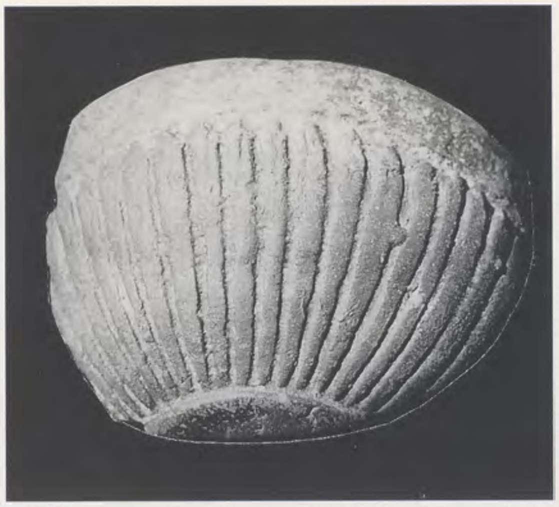
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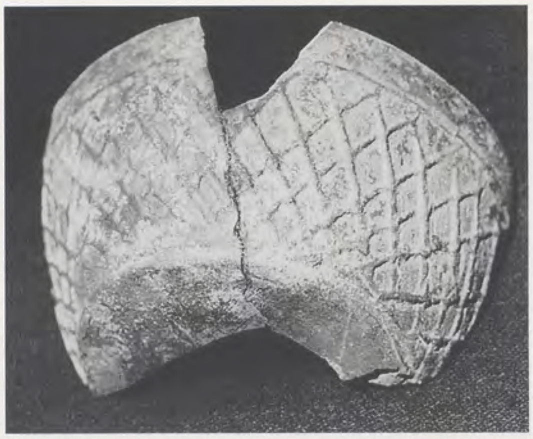
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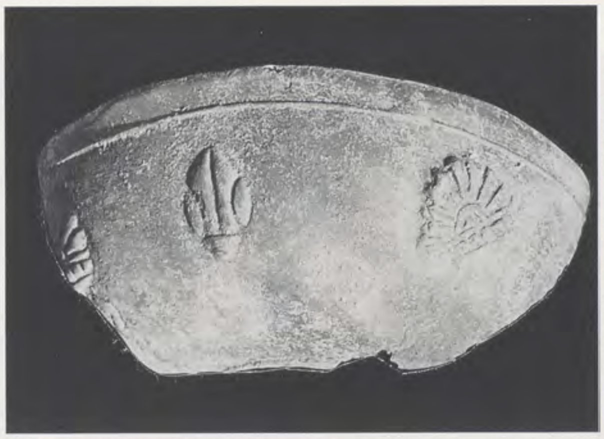
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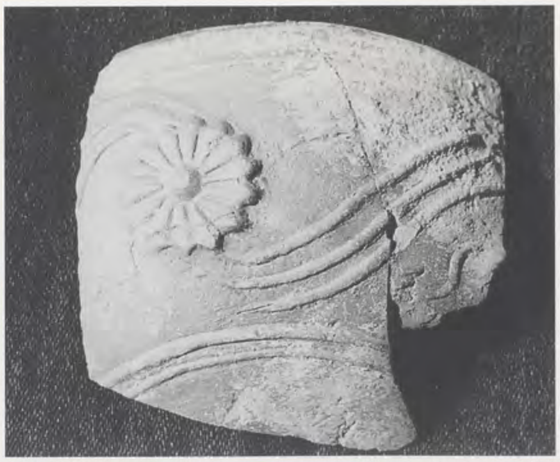
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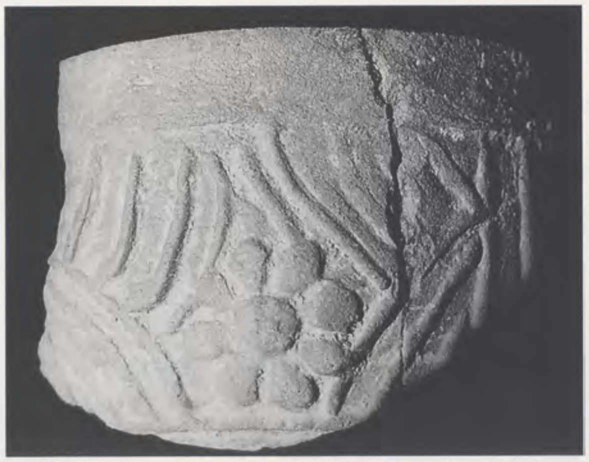
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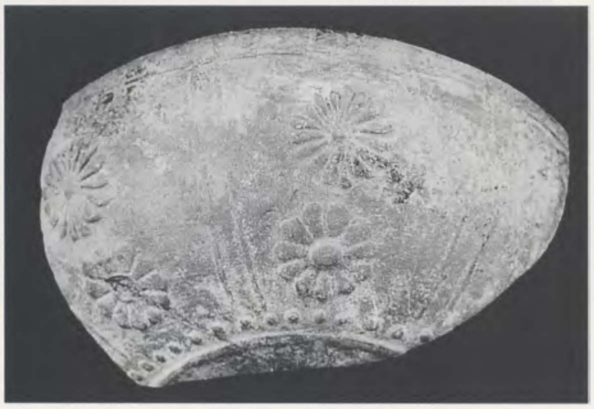
Decorated Pottery, Period VI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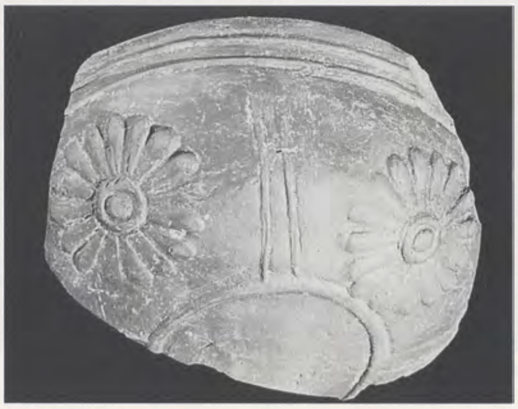
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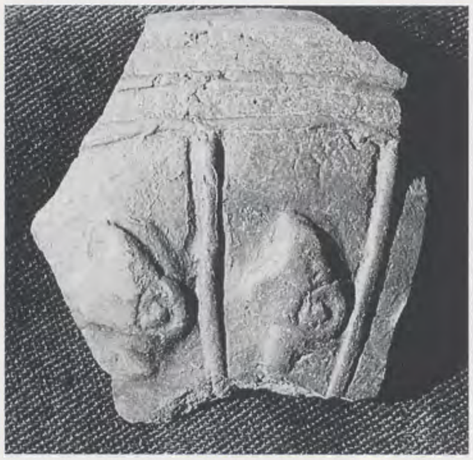
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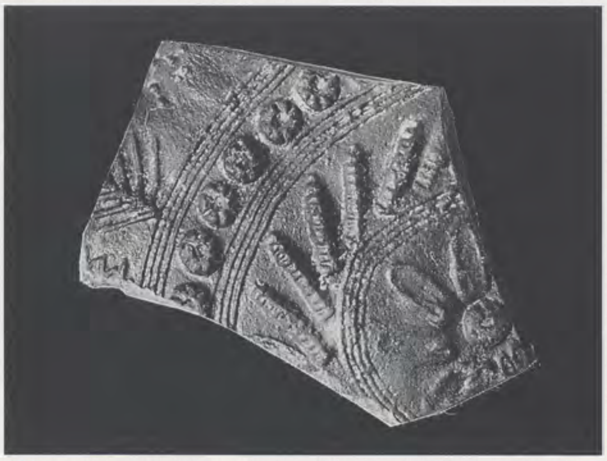
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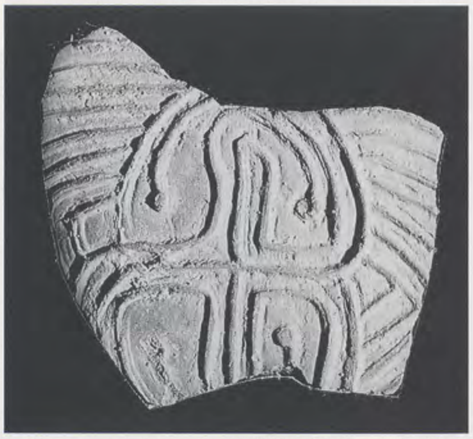
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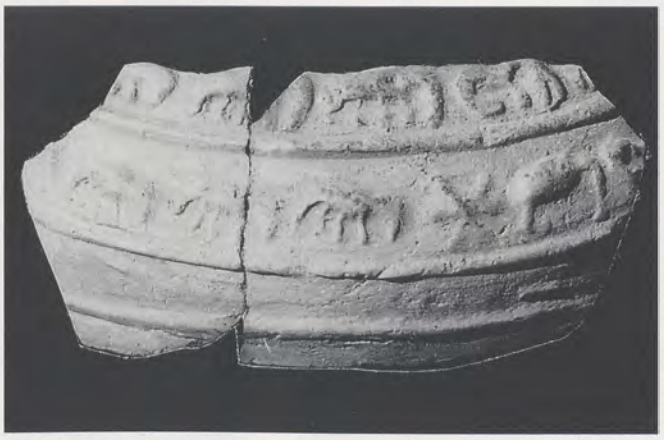
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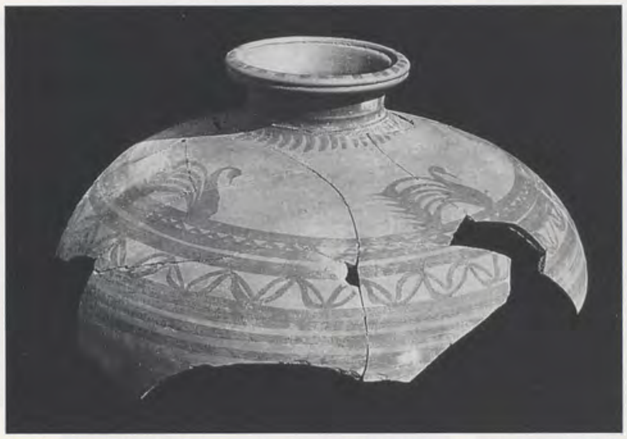
Decorated Pottery, Period VI



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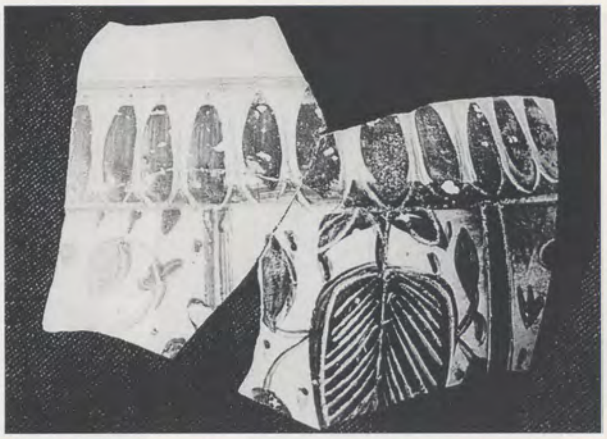

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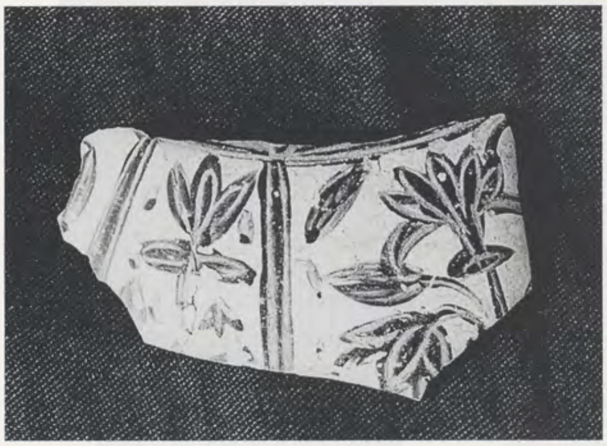

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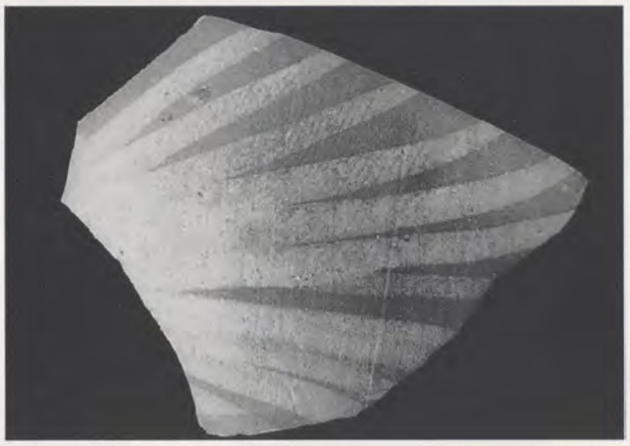

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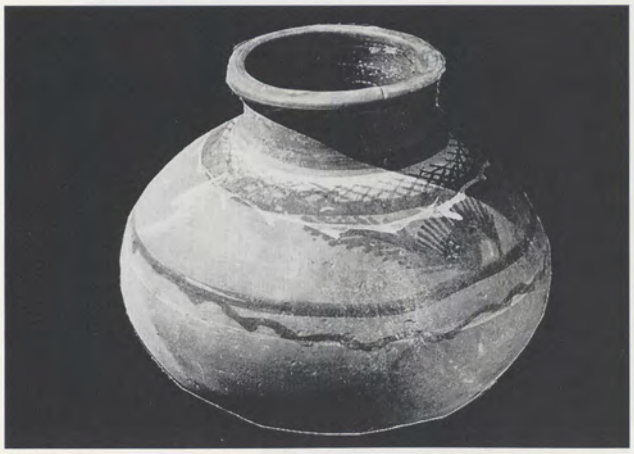

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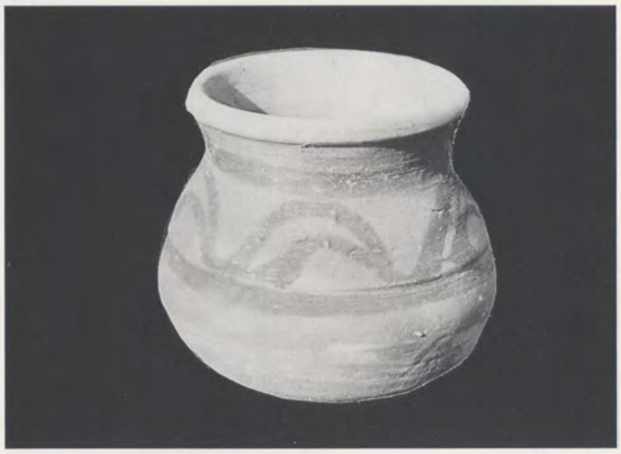

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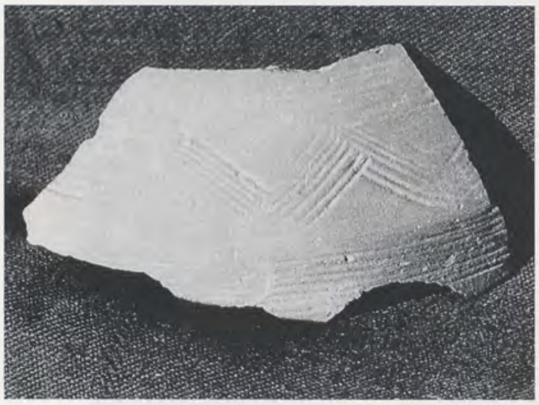
Decorated Pottery, Period VII–VIII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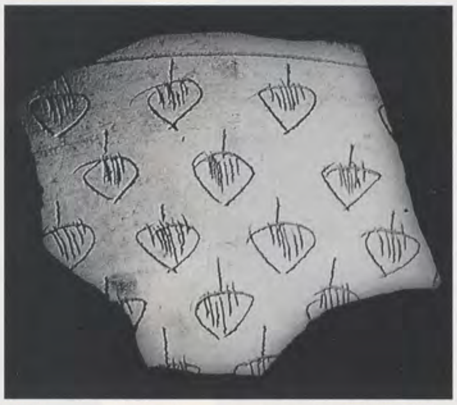
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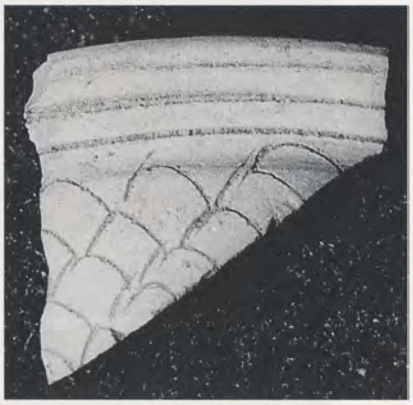
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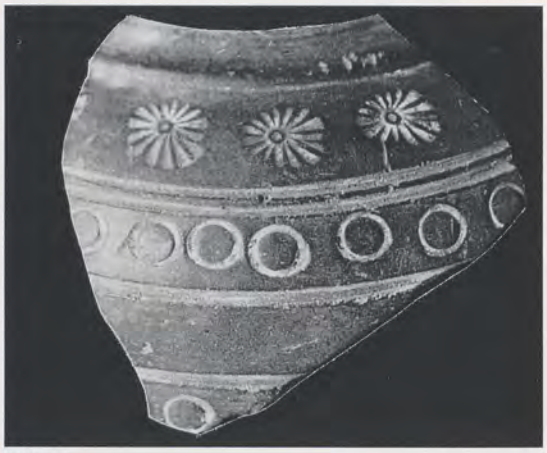
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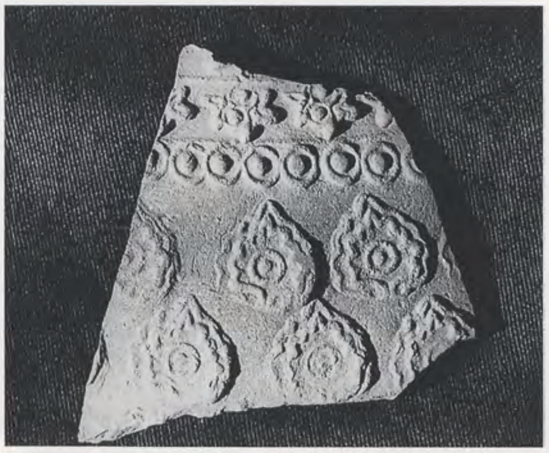
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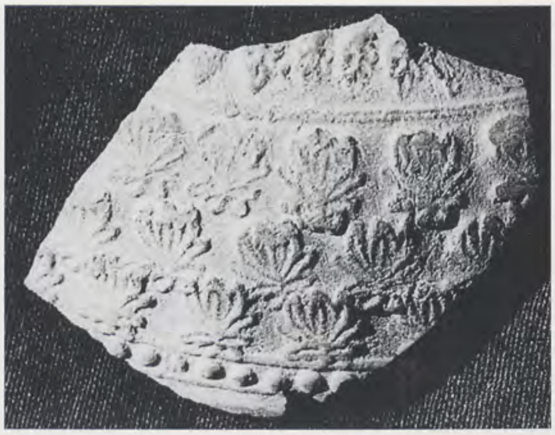
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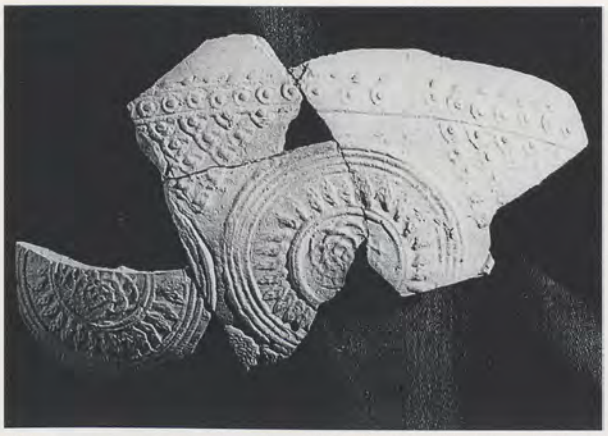
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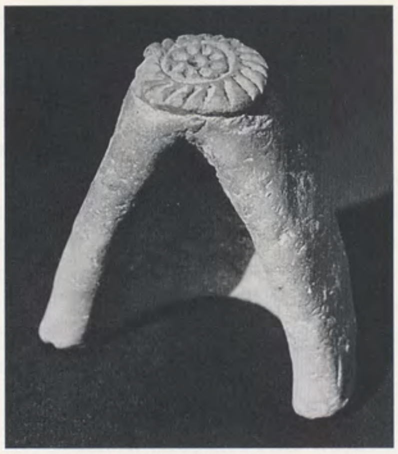
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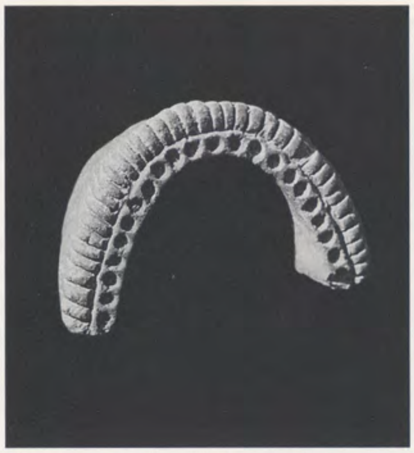
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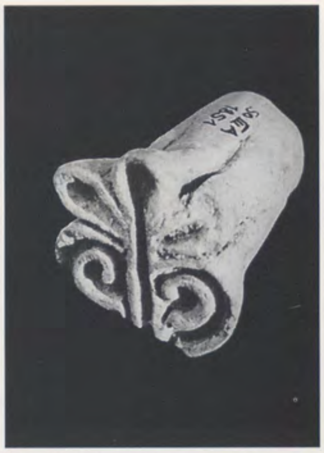
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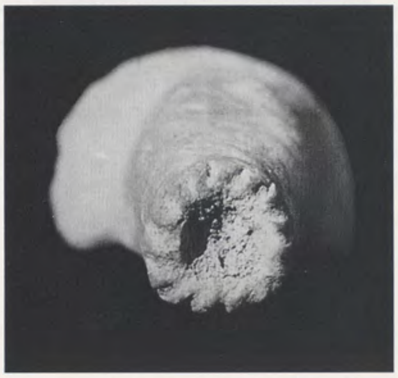
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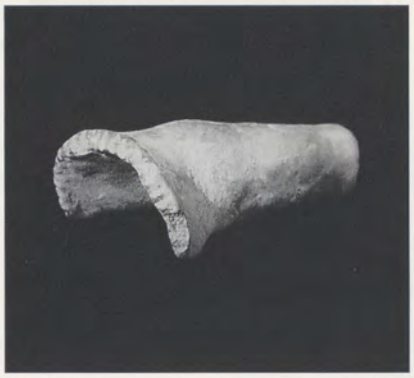
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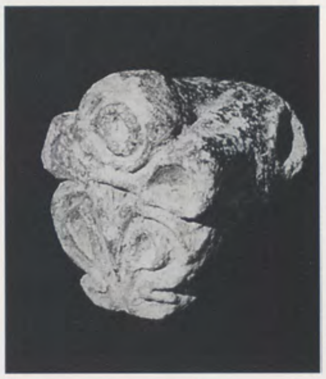
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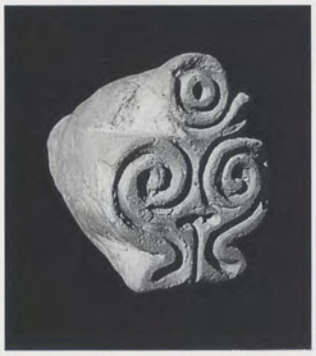
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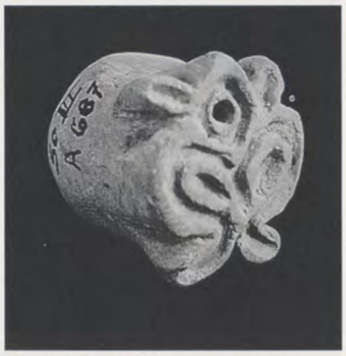

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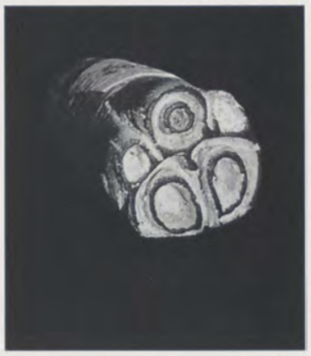
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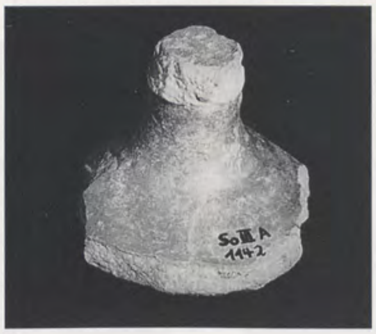
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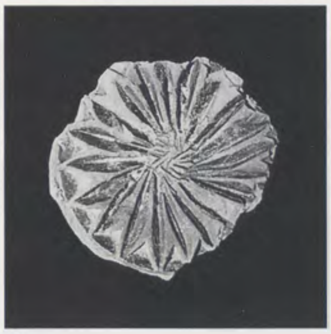
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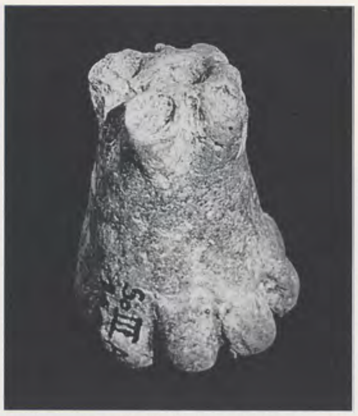
Potter's Stamps, Period V (VI)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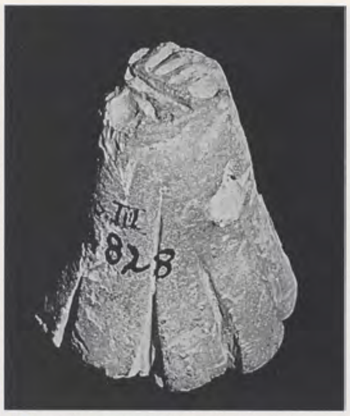
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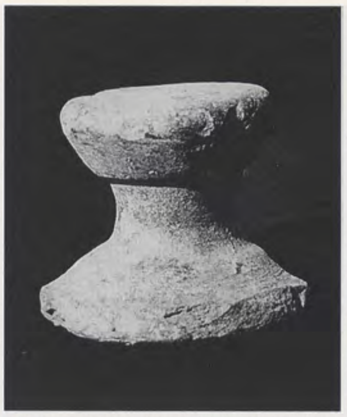
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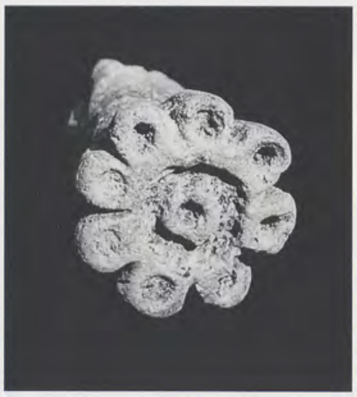
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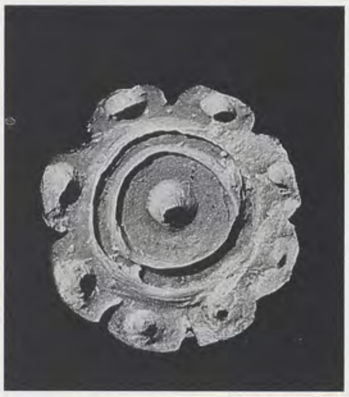
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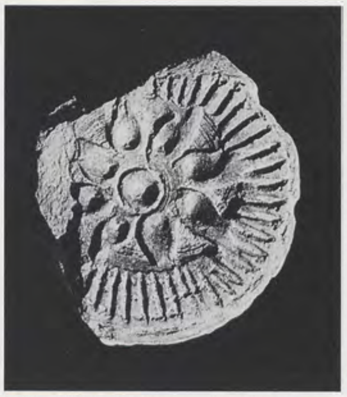
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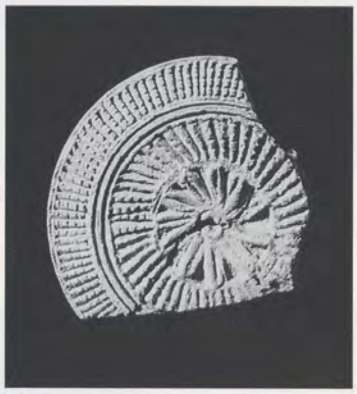
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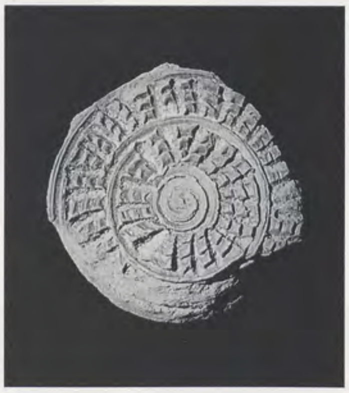
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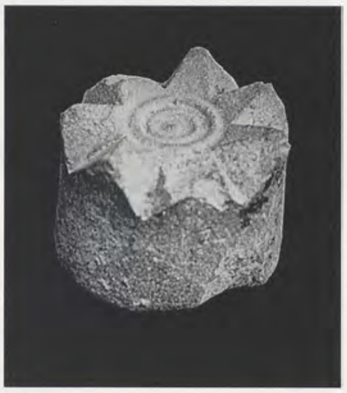
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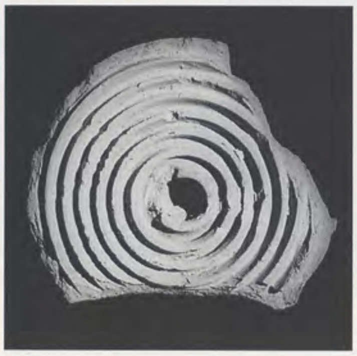
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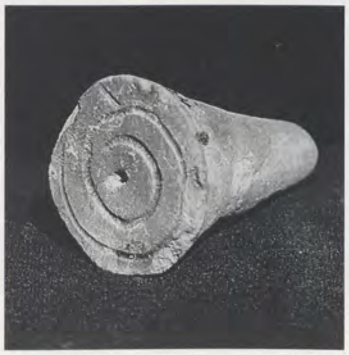
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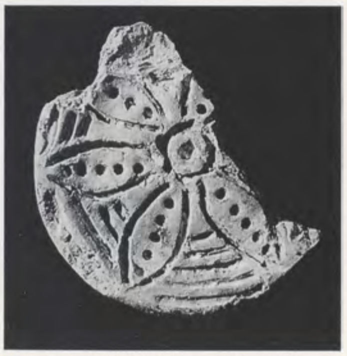
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Potter's Stamps, Period V (VI)

P. POTTERY

Introduction

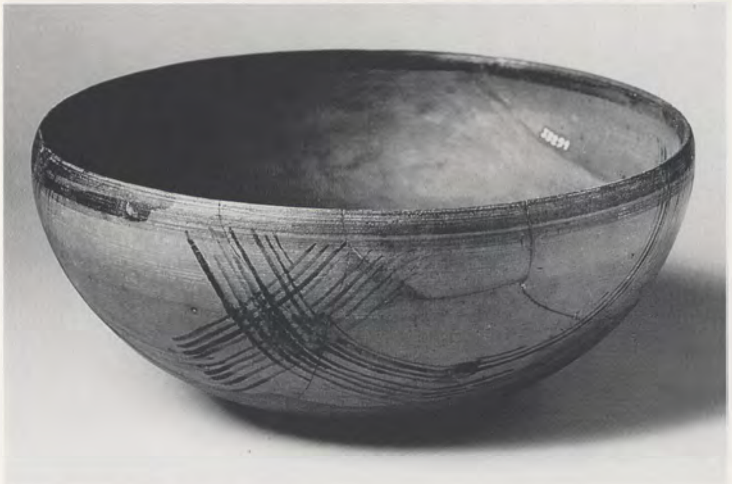
The excavation registers 3120 pots and shape-retaining pottery fragments. The majority of them has been found in their original surroundings and in datable context. This report intends to sum up the main types and shapes of the pottery from Sonkh through all the Periods. A simultaneous study of the material published in the chapter DECORATED POTTERY will be helpful.
The pottery assemblage at Sonkh comprises in the main groups the following wares:

Period I	Painted Grey Ware, Black-and-Red Ware, Associated Grey and Red Wares
Period II	Northern Black Polished Ware, Associated Grey and Red Wares
Period III–VI	Red Wares with increasing modes of decoration
Period VII–VIII	Red and thin Grey Wares with growing Islamic component

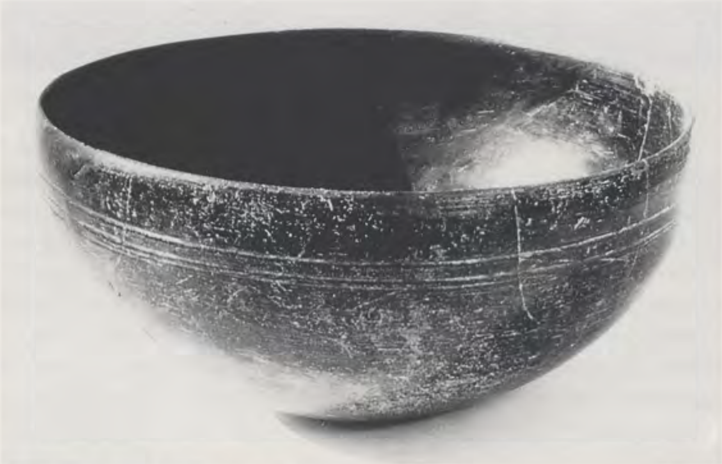
In general the pottery of Sonkh is strongly related to that of other sites between western Rajasthan and central Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and northern Madhya Pradesh, like Rang Mahal, Kaushambi, Hastinapura, Ahicchatra, Atrañjikhera and others.

Period I: The Pottery from the Painted Grey Ware-Levels

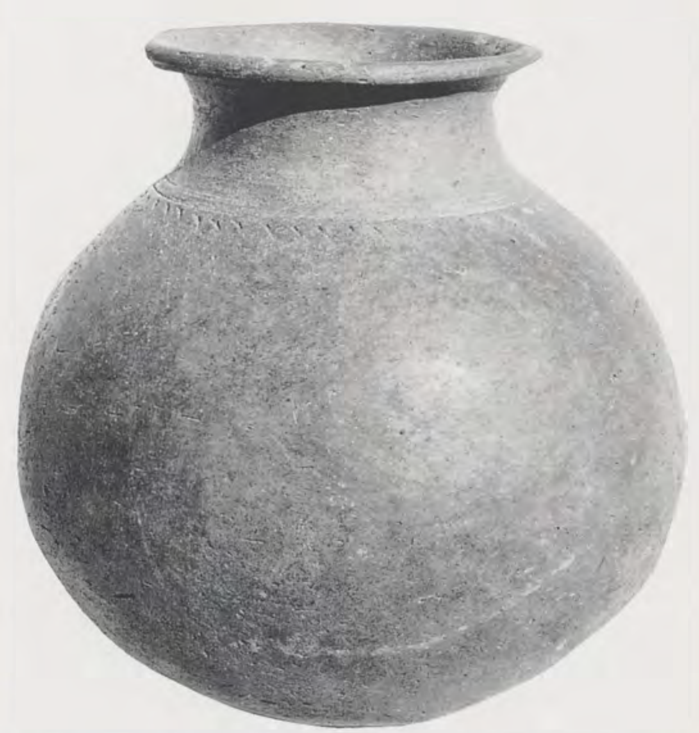
In the area of Sonkh, Painted Grey Ware Pottery (PGW) occurs simultaneously with the Black and Red Ware (BRW), with which it has in common the thin wall and base and the burnished surface. The typical PGW has a grey core of very fine clay texture and is decorated with comb-painted geometric, abstract and symbolic ornaments (see DEC.POT. nos. 1–26), swiftly flung on the outer and inner surface in black or dark grey colour, or even in brownish and greenish shades. With this ware, dishes with convex bottom and carinated or incurved walls are conspicuous (nos. I.1, 2) accompanied by hemispherical bowls (Fig. 81) and cups with steep walls (no. I.33) as the main shapes.
BRW consists, like PGW, of more or less hemispherical bowls (Fig. 82), tulip bowls (no. I.26) and other types of beakers. The Sonkh specimens of this ware carry no ornaments.
Some of the PGW and BRW vessels seem to be made on the potter's wheel, but others are made by moulding the base and building up the wall on a turntable. The wheel-thrown pots have either turned or beaten bases.
Besides the fine grey and painted specimens there occurs a grey ware of cruder fabric and with an increased thickness of the wall. These types are wheel-thrown with roughly beaten or scraped bases. The bowls, dishes, cups and jars of this grey ware are occasionally covered with a black slip. In a few cases the bottom shows, on the inside, stamped rosette ornaments.
Associated with the rather delicate PGW and BRW potteries are storage jars (no. I.40), water jars (Fig. 83), bowls, jarlets and cauldrons of less refined clay and texture, of brick-red colour, either wheel-thrown or, definitely in the case of the storage jars, coiled and beaten, sometimes even showing ribbed paddle-marks. The water jars of this period are, in general, globular with concave necks and out-curving rims, in a few cases stamped with a taurine symbol or separate circle and semicircle, inside the rim (no. I.53). Some vessels of the associated ware are embellished with incised or impressed lines, or band, or with applied cordons.



81 Painted Grey Ware bowl



82 Black-and-Red Ware bowl



83 Red ware jar of PGW Period

Period II: The Northern Black Polished Ware and the Mauryan Red Wares

The PGW, BRW and its contemporary associated wares were, to our knowledge, the earliest pottery products of the Mathura region. With the next phase the Mauryan period opens and with it, the traditions of PGW and BRW terminate. The Coarse Grey Ware seems to become more frequent; the fashion of black-slipping increases in such a way that even grey terracotta figurines get slipped.

Beginning with the Maurya period, the Northern Black Polished Ware (NBPW) makes its appearance. At Sonkh, quite a number of mostly very small sherds have been found. From rims, the shape of the vessels can at least be partially reconstructed. All available sherds belong to shallow bowls and dishes, most of them rather large, with flat or convex bottom and angular, nearly straight, inclined wall and plain rim, which obviously retain elements of PGW. The paste is of very fine fabric and of grey, buff or reddish colour. A typical feature is the thin light red or pink layer beneath the coating. The coating itself is black, dark steel-blue, or dark brown. It is lustrous and iridescent. Considering the extreme thinness of the sherds in relation to the size of the dishes one can rightfully call this ware the luxury porcelain of the Mauryas.

On the whole, red ware becomes more dominant during the 4th and 3rd centuries BC. Storage jars are of the same manufacture and they retain the previous shapes. Pyriform or gourdshaped water jars appear along with globular ones. The typical pyriform jar has a rather wide carinated neck (no. II.23;Fig. 84). Cooking vessels with lenticular base, bulging or carinated wall and angular everted rim appear in early Mauryan times. The bottom of these vessels contains mica in minute particles, obviously in order to make the vessels fireproof. In one case, a taurine symbol is impressed on the exterior of a cooking bowl. Slurry-daubing seems to appear for the first time.

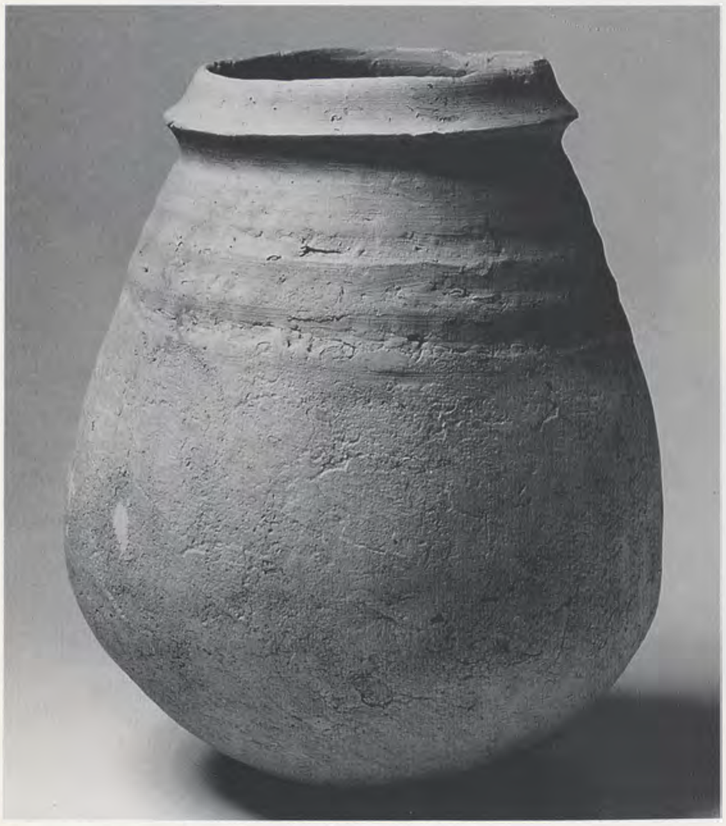
Some rather peculiar types of small bowls or dishes are worth mentioning here. They have inward beaded or bevelled rims and they can be grey, black-slipped grey, or red. Another type of the 3rd century BC is a carinated dish with slightly convex base and everted or flaring rim, the base containing mica (no. II.71). This type can be traced up to the 2nd century AD. Globular ointment jarlets continue from PGW times, in red ware. A rather large lid in the shape of a curved dish with central loop-handle belongs here also (no. II.89).

Two objects found in the Mauryan levels at Sonkh may point to the existence of animal-shaped and figuratively adorned vessels in the 3rd century BC. A rather peculiar-looking object, for instance, is the fragment of a tortoise-shaped vessel (no. II.62). It is of red clay, the trunk seems to be wheel-thrown with presumably six leg or neck-appendages. The surface is red-slipped and decorated with incised grooves. It may have been used as a lamp. A small female terracotta head of brown colour originates from late Mauryan times (HUMAN TERR. FIG. no. 15). At the point of fracture throwing marks are visible. The head had presumably been attached to the neck and shoulder of a pot, comparable to a complete vessel in the reserve collection of the Mathura Museum.

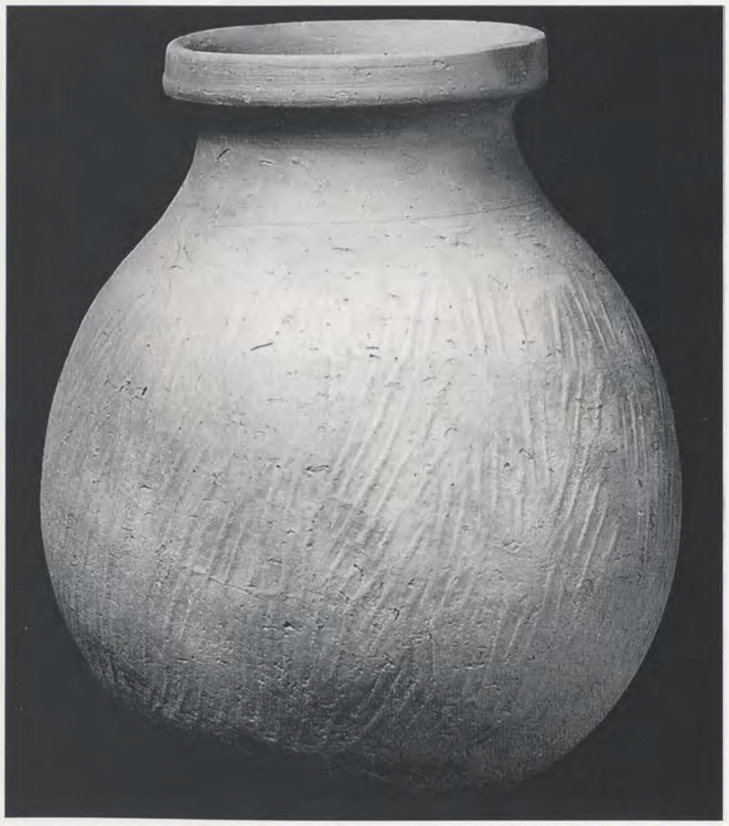
The Pottery of the Śuṅga Cultural Phase

In the 2nd century BC the style of the pottery did not undergo sudden changes. As for storage jars, there is hardly any evidence of their shape. A single fragment of a rim suggests the continuation of the old types. Many of the pyriform water jars, which already appeared in Maurya times, are now decorated with ribbed paddle-marks (no. II.92; Fig. 85).

Cooking vessels with carinated wall become dominant (no. II.87). Worth mentioning are small thick-walled jars with or without criss-cross pattern on their shoulder and perforations in the neck (no. II.86). Another typical sample is the "jar-cum-bowl", that



84 Red ware pyriform jar, Period II



85 Pyriform jar with paddle-marks, Period II

means the lid is in the shape of a small jar or beaker with a slanting flange (no. II.88). In the same levels one again finds the slightly concave lid with central loop-handle.

The NBP Ware terminates; the black-slipped Grey Ware survives in the form of bowls with in-beaded rims, or large bowls with faceted rims, also jars with funnel neck (no. II.79). But the shallow grey bowl with convex bottom and nearly straight wall is replaced by the funnel-bowl with narrow untreated flat base and upcurved or inflected, later on also carinated, rim of red ware (no. II.42 ff.). This type of bowl appears in ever increasing quantity up to the Kuṣāṇa age and later. Its frequency as the typical food bowl causes one to call it "common bowl".

A great variety of small vases and jars with flat bases develops. Jars with bow-rims are peculiar to this period (no. II.98). A small globular ewer with flat base and narrow neck, unfortunately having the rim missing, is the oldest spouted vessel so far known in this region (no. II.59).

Period III: The Pottery in the Time of the Mitras of Mathura

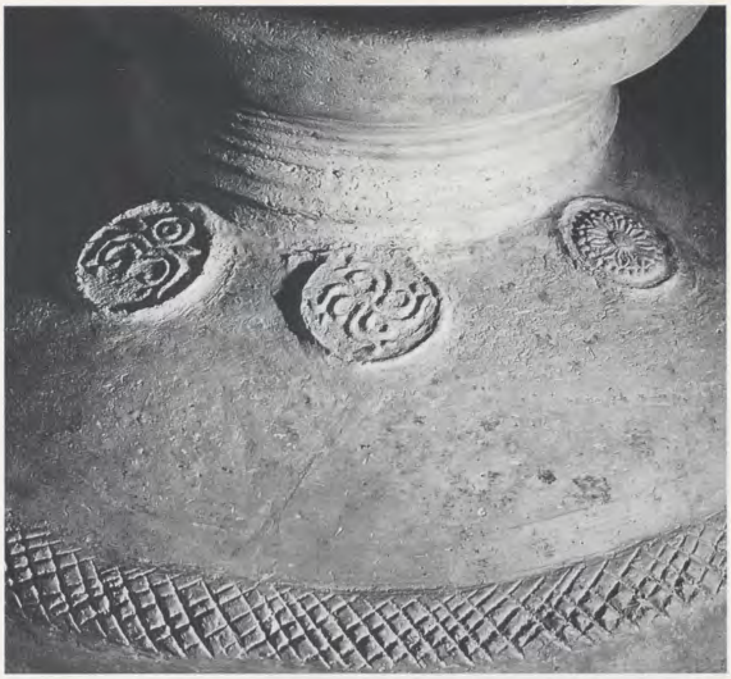
With Gomitra, the period of the Mathura rulers with -mitra ending names begins. In their time, that is from the end of the 2nd century to the second half of the 1st century BC, many pottery types continue: as for instance the oblong storage jar without decoration, the pyriform jar with or without paddle-marks, the common bowl, the jar-shaped lid and the carinated cooking vessel. Others, like the jar with bow-rim, the cooking vessel without carination, the slightly concave lid with central loop-handle, and above all, the Coarse Grey and black-slipped Grey Wares *do not survive*.

New are a storage jar, elliptical in section (no. III.17), a big oblong but neckless jar with crudely incised vertical strokes (no. III.18) and ovoidal storage jars with appliqué cordons and symbols (svastika, nandyāvarta and lotus rosette) (no. III.16; Fig. 86). Simpler forms of the taurine, nandyāvarta and svastika symbols occur on a number of sherds from the Mitra levels at Sonkh (see Dec.Pot., nos. 46–49). In this connection a water jar with incised svastika and nandyāvarta (no. III.5) is to be mentioned. The pyriform jar now often shows a gently upward curving long neck (no. III.11). New are also a bottle with an apple-shaped trunk and a slender deeply profiled double-carinated neck (no. III.59), and a bottle with a hemispherical trunk, a conical shoulder and a corrugated neck (no. III.58; Fig. 87). A small waisted jar with flat or convex bottom and funnel-rim is noticeable (no. III.71). Furthermore there are the barrel-jar with grooves (no. III.19), the bowl or dish with "eared" loop-handles (no. III.39), another one with "eared" spout, and a small cup-shaped libation vessel with long spout (no. III.110).

Two fragments of a bowl and a jar deserve special attention because of their peculiar spouts, which are chevron-shaped and pointing downwards (nos. III.69; 99). The bowl seems to have been standing on legs or stilts. Another interesting pottery item of this Period III is a fragment of a vessel showing a handle in the shape of a monkey with upturned tail (see Misc.Terr.Obj., no. 6).

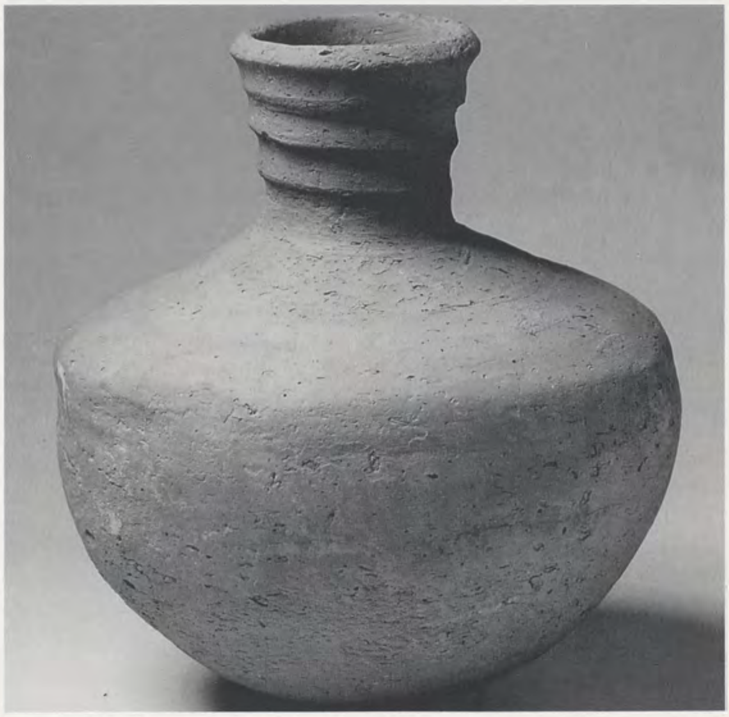
Period IV: The Pottery in the Time of the Dattas and Kṣatrapas of Mathura

The time from the last quarter of the first century BC to the middle of the first century AD is characterized by definite stylistic differences in the pottery products from the foregoing period. Storage jars develop the shape of the Mitra vessels or are of a new type, the distinctive features being a short neck and beaded, sometimes even undercut, rim (no. IV.25). Conspicuous are globular water jars and ewers with corrugated necks or rims (no. IV.5). In this period, or more precisely in the latest phase of Kṣatrapa structures at Sonkh, the fashion of *stamping* the vessels with a rosette, nandyāvarta or other designs begins.

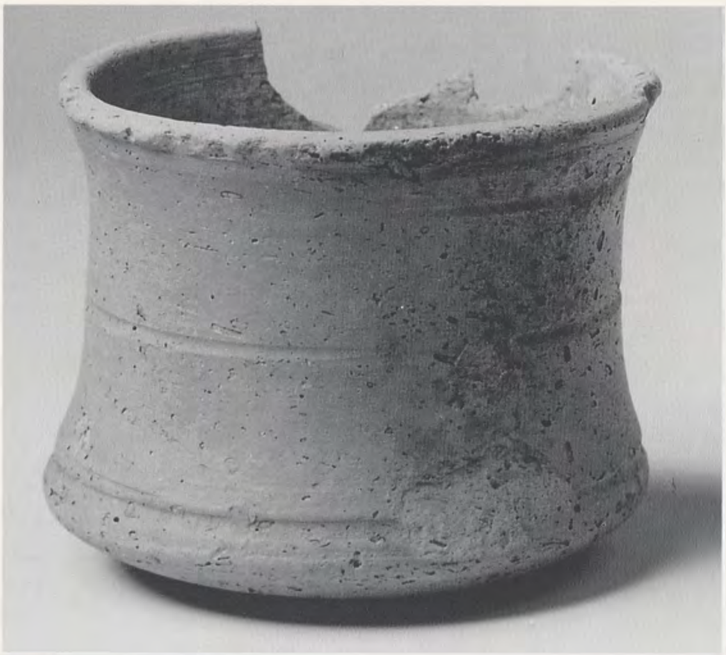


86 Storage jar with appliqué cordons and symbols, Period III

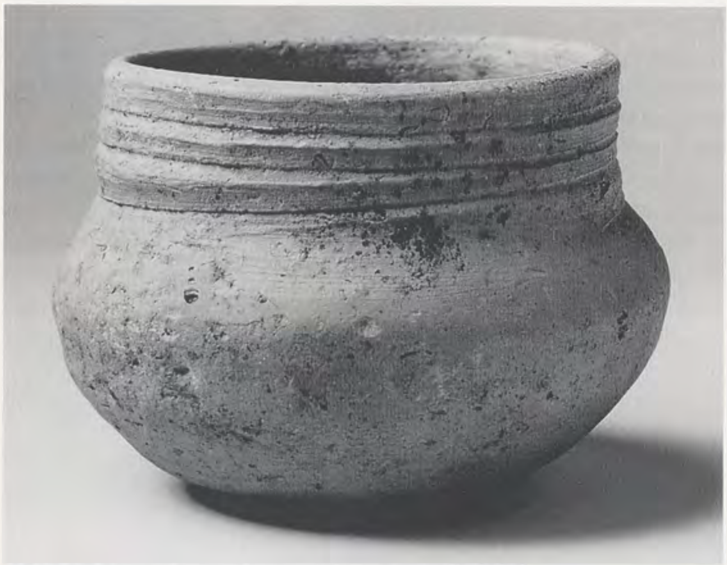
Among the small vessels, a bell-shaped cup with clearly protruding foot (no. IV.42) shows affinities with Central Asian and Bactrian goblets in clay of metal of the same era. It is comparable also to a Kṣatrapa metal goblet from Level 23 at Sonkh (see chapter METAL, no. 58). Other new shapes are a capstan-shaped cup with saggar base (no. IV.38; Fig. 88), a beaker with bulging wall and grooved vertical rim (no. IV.41; Fig. 89), a small double-carinated jar appearing in great quantity (no. IV.17), a bowl lid with



87 Bottle with corrugated neck, Period III



88 Cup with saggar base, Period IV



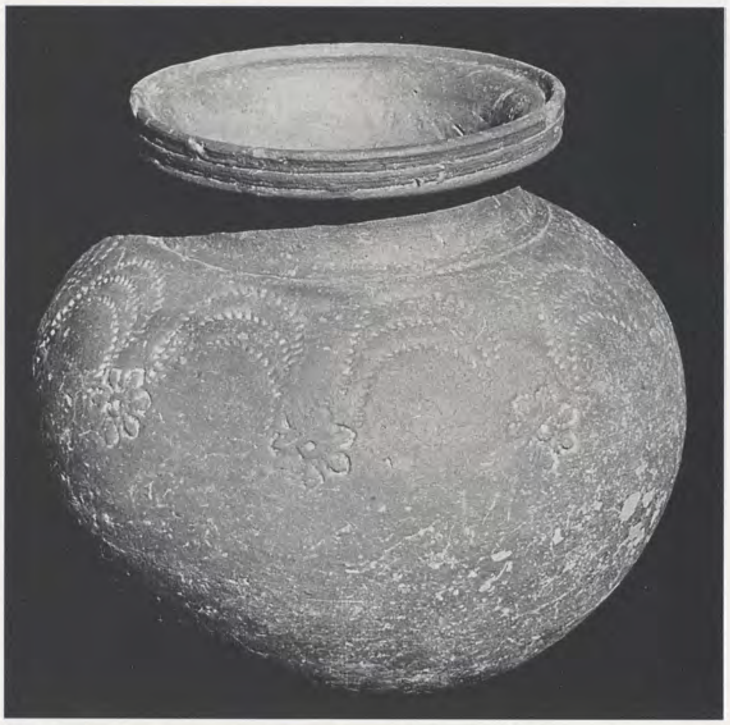
89 Beaker with grooved vertical rim, Period IV

central grip-hole (no. IV.53), and an elegant globular bottle with a slightly bulbous long neck and smooth red slip (no. IV.1). The small spouted libation vessel turns up again, but this time with double-spout and fish-tail handle (no. IV.59).

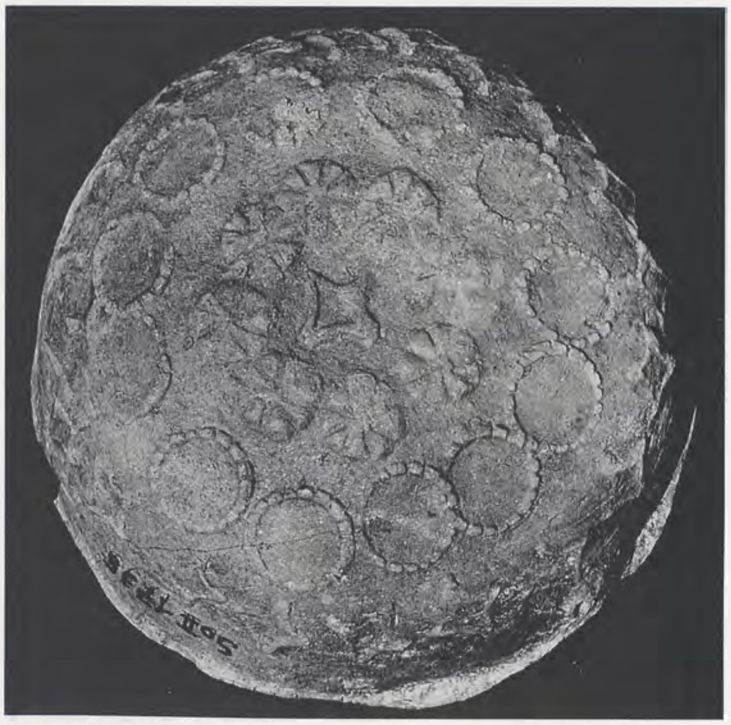
Period V: The Pottery of the Kuṣāṇa Era

In the Kuṣāṇa era a number of shapes of the preceding levels show further development and in addition, quite a number of new types appear. The most characteristic feature of the pottery in this period is the abundant *stamping* of storage vessels, jars and ewers with symbolic, floral or geometric ornaments (Fig. 90). Many different forms such as śrīvatsa, nandyāvarta, cakra, svastika, haṃsa, rosette, leaf, circle and combinations of them turn up as decorative patterns (see chapter Decorated Pottery). Besides the stamped designs the first ornamentally moulded small bowls (nos. V.82 ff.), jars or ewers have been found. They are met with in the middle Kuṣāṇa levels, the specimens being rather crudely executed, showing lotus and other ornaments on the exterior of bowls (Fig. 91), but in time, the ornaments rise to a high standard of craftsmanship, culmination in vessels from the end of the Kuṣāṇa to the Gupta period (see Dec. Pot., no. 139).

The globular water jars with corrugated rim or neck are now very often spouted (no. V.20), the spout sometimes being shaped as a makara's or a horse's, bull's or bird's head. The smooth ovoidal bottles with long neck continue, and additionally there appear bottles with the sprinkler neck, well known from other parts of



90 Storage jar, stamped with floral ornaments. Period V



91 Small moulded bowl with ornaments on the exterior. Period V

northern, central and western India (no. V.1). Rather outside the usual style or styles of the Kuṣāṇa potteries from Sonkh is a saddle-shouldered, narrow-necked ewer with a steep and long tapering spout, a flaring rim and a loop-handle (no. V.6).

Although there are still bowl-lids with central grip-hole, the majority are now bowl-lids with central knob and a distinct flange (no. V.87 ff.).

Period VI: The Pottery of the Gupta and Post-Gupta Levels

These levels show a ware with characteristics rather distinguished from that of earlier levels, as it is much more delicately thrown, has a smooth, mostly red slipped surface very often painted with distinct black horizontal stripes (nos. VI.8 ff.; Fig. 92) arranged in bands of three or two stripes, later on replaced by painted swans and floral ornaments (no. VI.30). The necks of the jars are sometimes double-rimmed (nos. VI.15 f.) or deeply channelled. Some of the jars have spouts with pointed crops. The shapes of the trunks vary from heart-shape to oblate globular, several with saddle-shoulder. The latter can be decorated with raised dots and ridges, partially coated with mica or gold-coloured slip. The body is of medium chaff-tempered fabric, with grey-black core.

There are also bowls with bulging walls and flaring rims. Small moulded bowls with relief ornaments continue, but now they are much more refined. A goblet with moulded bowl and stem is remarkable (no. VI.78; Fig. 93). Some of the bottles with bulging trunk have sprinkler necks and spouts. The cooking vessels don't differ so much in shape from those of earlier levels. The funnel-bowls are now mostly with plain straight rim instead of stepped in-curved or carinated ones. Besides bowl-lids with central knob, bell-shaped lids with grooved or painted decoration turn up. A special feature of this period are the elaborately made pedestal lamps with loop-handle and scalloped rim.

Periods VII/VIII: The Pottery of the Medieval and Islamic Levels

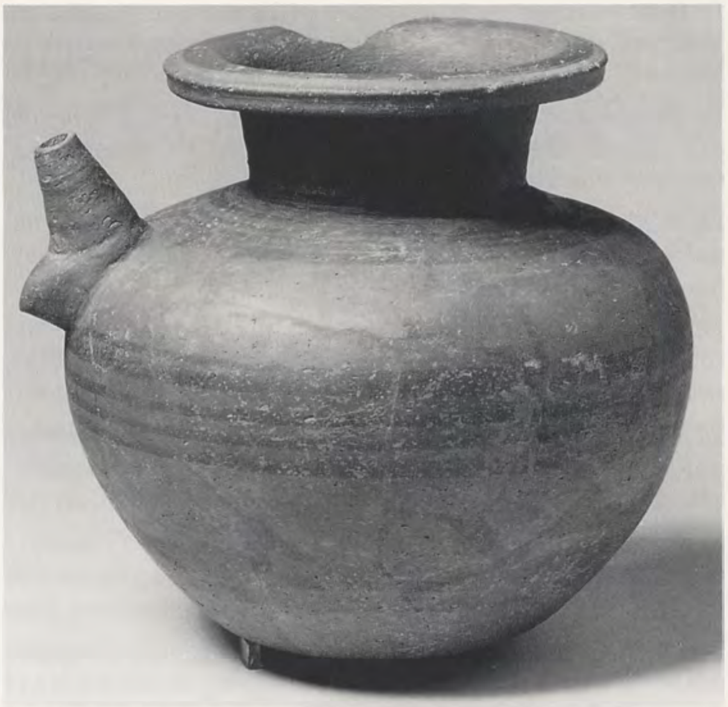
Above Level 12 the quantity of pottery finds is considerably reduced. The Levels 11 to 9 show vessel types similar to the Gupta & Post-Gupta ware, though the more refined pottery of the early Gupta period has disappeared. A new type of lid, the cone lid with knob (no. VII.34), gradually replaces the bell-shaped and the bowl-lid. Decoration mainly consists of black painted stripes, swans and peacocks, arches and festoons. This fashion continues, but in Levels 8 to 6 partially moulded jars and bottles with rich relief decoration in Islamic style appear additionally. In Levels 5 to 1 finally the hookah turns up (nos. VIII.13 ff.). The pottery of this time is more or less continuing until today in the area surrounding the now deserted ancient mound of Sonkh.

Period I. Pottery from Levels 40 to 37

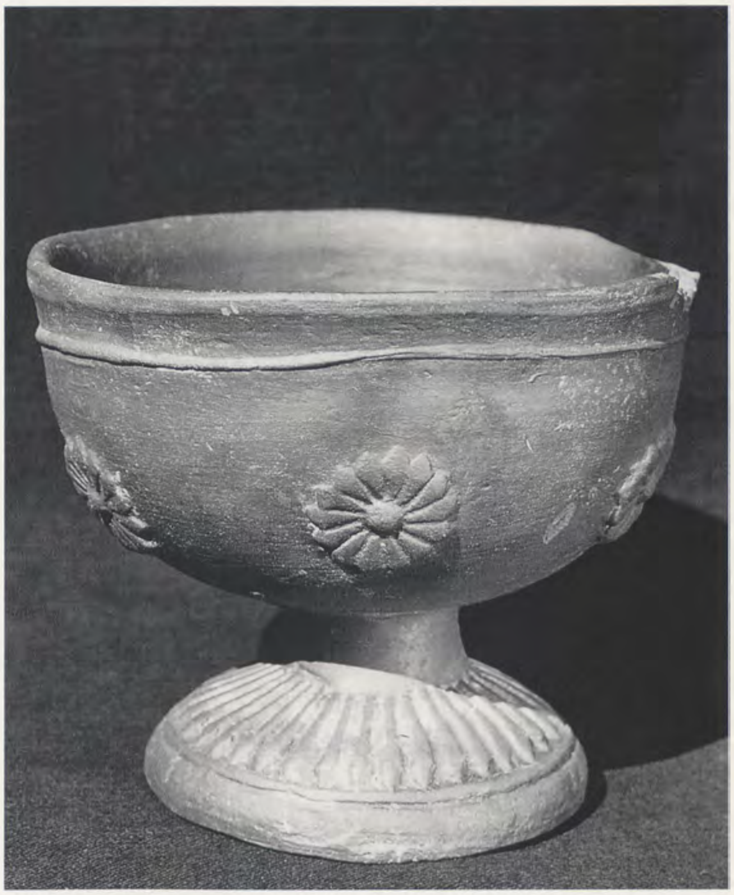
Painted Grey Ware

I.1 Bowl, lenticular bottom with carinated edge, conical wall (in-leaning), direct rim. Dark grey, black painted comb-pattern, bottom outside lighter grey, body grey, fine fabric, burnished. No. So II 5.

I.2 Bowl-fragment, shallow paraboloidal bottom, carinated edge, lightly in-curved wall, direct rim. Grey, wall outside reddish ochre, separated by dark grey line from grey bottom, black comb-pattern, fine fabric, burnished. No. So II 2143.



92 Spouted jar with horizontal black painted stripes. Period VI



93 Goblet with moulded bowl and stem. Period VI

III.36 Cooking vessel, lenticular, carination ridge on shoulder, everted rim. Reddish ochre, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2248.

III.37 Funnel-bowl ("common bowl"), carinated rim, flat base. Brick-red, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 3016.

III.38 Small funnel-bowl, up-curved rim, distinct foot. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2534.

III.39 Large bowl, up-curved wall, lenticular bottom, club-rim, two opposite loop-handles with ears. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2204.

III.40 Large bowl, funnel-wall, inflected carinated rim, flat base. Brick-red, core unoxidized, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2067.

III.41 Large bowl, inflected carinated rim, corrugated, tube-spout with applied ears or eyes. Ochre, red slipped, core unoxidized, coarse fabric. No. So II 2365.

III.42 Bowl, funnel-wall, broad in-beaded rim (flange), flat base. Brick-red, interior red slipped, core unoxidized, medium coarse fabric. No. So II.2730.

III.43 Large bowl, in-curved wall, beaded rim, lenticular base. Ochre, red slipped, fine fabric. No. So II 2865.

III.44 Large bowl, slightly convex wall, grooved rim, flat base, lug-handles. Ochre, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 3105.

III.45 Cauldron, steep funnel-wall, hemispherical base, thick banded rim. Brick-red, coarse fabric, hand-built. No. So II 3115.

III.46 Small bowl (cup), up-curving wall, in-bevelled rim, concave bottom. Dark brick-red, red slipped, fine fabric, bottom and lower wall beat-marked. No. So II 2574.

III.47 Small bowl, slightly in-curved wall, in-bevelled rim, lenticular bottom. Brick-red, red slipped, fine fabric. No. So II 2351.

III.48 Lid, "jar-cum-bowl"(bowl-lid with jar-shaped grip-hole), flat base. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2999.

III.49 Bowl-lid with central cone, flat base. Brick-red, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 2562.

III.50 Dome-lid with flat-topped knob, prominent ridge on shoulder. Ochre, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2997.

III.51 Small dome-lid with perforated flat-topped knob. Ochre, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2886.

III.52 Double-conical pedestal lamp, flaring everted rim. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2177.

III.53 Fragment of lid?, domed with short flange, constricted rim. Ochre, under side grey-black, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2303.

III.54 Small ring-stand, double-rimmed, top-side incised chevrons. Light brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2878.

III.55 Pedestal in shape of stool, corrugated foot. Brick-red, coarse fabric. No. So II 2223.

III.56 Tall ring-stand, sloping wall, short flange. Ochre, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 2237.

III.57 Sprinkler spout, seven holes, knob-shape, base decorated with impressed dots and applied rings. Brick-red, core unoxidized, coarse fabric. No. So II 2612.

b) Levels 26 to 25

III.58 Bottle, hemispherical lower trunk, conical shoulder, steep funnel-neck with throwing-ridges, bevelled rim. Brick-red, core unoxidized, coarse fabric. No. So II 2510.

III.59 Bottle, apple-shaped, saddle-shoulder, triple-rimmed neck, grooves on shoulder and belly. Reddish ochre, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2726.

III.60 Bottle-fragment, short carinated neck, flat-topped rim, ridge on base of neck. Brick-red, core unoxidized, medium coarse fabric. No. So II.1645.

III.61 Small bottle, heart-shape profile, flat protruding foot, ridge below slender slightly out-curved neck, bevelled rim. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2553.

III.62 Small bottle, lenticular, flat base, short cylindrical neck, bow-rim. Ochre, fine fabric. No. So II 2036.

III.63 Small bottle, globular, narrow flat base, near-cylindrical neck, funnel-rim with restricted base. Ochre, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2044.

III.64 Pyriform jar, recurved bevelled rim, lower trunk paddle-marked. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2508.

III.65 Globular jar, recurved neck, beaded rim, two grooves on shoulder. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2447.

III.66 Globular jar, nearly horizontal shoulder, slightly out-curved neck, beaded rim, ridge at base of neck, two grooves on shoulder. Brick-red, core unoxidized, red slip, medium fine fabric (strongly chaff-tempered). No. So II 1988.

III.67 Globular jar, shoulder-ledge, slightly out-curved neck, banded collar-rim. Dark red burnished slip on ochre, core unoxidized, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 2721.

III.68 Globular jar, high shoulder, short neck, long banded funnel-rim, ridge at base of neck. Brick-red, core unoxidized, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1987.

III.69 Globular jar, funnel-neck, flaring rim, three spouts in unusual shape. Brick-red, core unoxidized, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2954.

III 70 Small jar, conical, lenticular base, grooved shoulder, ridge on base of neck, out-curved bevelled collar-rim. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2979.

III.71 Small jar, conical wall, lenticular base, waisted below shoulder, flaring flat-topped rim, ridge below neck. Greyish ochre, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2647.

III.72 Small jar, waisted, lenticular bottom, bevelled funnel-rim. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2289.

III.73 Small jar, pyriform, slightly waisted, flat foot, bevelled funnel-rim. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2587.

III.74 Small jar, pyriform, lenticular base, bevelled funnel-rim. Ochre, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 2043.

III.75 Small jar, shallow paraboloidal bottom, vertical wall, conical shoulder with groove, ridge below cylindrical neck, bevelled rim (beaked). Reddish ochre, red slip, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 1959.

III.76 Small vase, heart-shape profile, flat foot, angular hyperboloidal neck, bevelled rim. Ochre, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2038.

III.77 Small jar, balluster-shape. Brick-red, core unoxidized, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1967.

III.78 Small jar, biconical, flat bottom, recurved neck, bevelled rim. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2968.

III.79 Small jar, double-carinated, angular funnel-neck, bevelled rim, flat foot, wall conical. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 1966.

III.80 Small jar, pyriform, flat foot, short bevelled funnel-rim. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2870.

III.81 Small jar, lenticular, flat foot, short, short bevelled rim. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2332.

III.82 Storage jar, heart-shape profile, pointed base, cylindrical corrugated neck, banded collar-rim, three applied medallions of nandyāvarta, svastika and lotus rosette, two applied and notched cordons. Light brick-red, upper half red slipped, coarse fabric, hand-modelled. No. So II 2966.

III.83 Small cooking jar, lenticular, shoulder-carination, curved banded rim. Brick-red, micaceous, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2554.

III.84 Cooking jar, carinated trunk, lenticular bottom, out-curved flaring rim. Ochre, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2039.

III.85 Small cooking jar, lenticular trunk, grooved shoulder-carination, out-curved rim. Reddish ochre, fine fabric. No. So II 2555.

III.86 Small jar in shape of cooking vessel, lenticular, small ridge around belly, groove on shoulder, oblique stamped ornaments, short angular funnel-rim. Black, fine fabric. No. So II 2299.

III.87 Funnel bowl, wall slightly out-curved, short upturned club-rim, flat foot. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 3099.

III.88 Funnel-bowl, rim stepped, sharply bevelled. Brick-red, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 2639.

III.89 Large cooking dish, lenticular bottom, carinated out-leaning wall, curved and in-beaded flange. Brick-red, red slip, bottom micaceous on both sides, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2709.

III.90 Large cooking dish, flat bottom, inflected wall with two grooves, everted rim. Brick-red, core unoxidized, bottom inside micaceous, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2531.

III.91 Heavy bowl, out-leaning wall, banded rim, flat bottom, interior concave. Brick-red, core unoxidized, coarse fabric. No. So II 2034.

III.92 Fragment of large funnel-bowl, flat foot, in-beaded bevelled rim. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2298.

III.93 Funnel-bowl, flaring flange, flat base, flange separated from trunk by interior ridge. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2238.

III.94 Basin, lenticular bottom, in-curving wall, vertical collar-rim, open spout. Reddish ochre, red slip, fine fabric. No. So II 2751.

III.95 Basin, heavy, funnel-shaped, flat foot, carinated conical rim. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2383.

III.96 Large basin, flaring slightly curved wall, inflected cordoned rim, flat base. Reddish ochre, smooth red slip on rim, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 2916.

III.97 Large dish, lenticular base, vertical corrugated wall, thick in-beaded curved flange, two eared grooved oblique loop handles. Brick-red, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 3060.

III.98 Large dish, flat bottom, cylindrical wall, two vertical circular loop-handles. Brick-red, mica-slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2741.

III.99 Bowl, curved bottom and wall, double-beaded flat-topped rim, presumably three triangular eared spouts, traces of three legs. Ochre, red slip outside, fine fabric. No. So II 2946.

III.100 Fragment of large heavy basin, hemispherical, band-rim with impressed notches and applied knobs. Brick-red, core unoxidized, interior sooty, coarse fabric, hand-built. No. So II 2145.

III.101 Fragment of large cauldron, in-curved wall, banded club-rim. Brick-red, coarse fabric, hand-built. No. So II 2124.

III.102 Fragment of large basin, funnel-wall, profiled and finger-dented club-rim. Ochre, red slipped rim and interior, Coarse fabric. No. So II 3078.

III.103 Small bowl, convex bottom, constricted neck, angular funnel-rim, in-bevelled. Brick-red, red slipped, fine fabric. No. So II 2539.

III.104 Cup, nearly cylindrical, rounded bottom with concave centre, beaded rim. Greyish ochre, fine fabric. No. So II 2615.

III.105 Cup, paraboloidal, flat foot, wall grooved, direct bevelled rim. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1979.

III.106 Small cup, carinated, out-curved wall, direct bevelled rim, flat foot. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2274.

III.107 Cup, protruding carination, flat foot, cylindrical upper wall, direct rim. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 1888.

III.108 Lid (stopper), "jar-cum-bowl", i.e. in the shape of a small globular jar with funnel rim connected with a flange protruding from the upper trunk. Ochre, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2287.

III.109 Lid (cover), conical, broad nearly flat knob, high cylindrical rim. Brick-red, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 2546.

III.110 Small libation-vessel, flattened globular neckless trunk, long conical spout. Light brick-red, medium fine fabric, hand-formed. No. So II 2281.

III.111 Ring-stand, concave wall, both rims bevelled, one rim decorated with impressed triangles, middle part triple-grooved. Brick-red, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2293.

Period IV. Pottery from Levels 24 to 23

IV.1 Bottle, heart-profile trunk, long bulging neck, banded rim, grooves on shoulder. Brick-red, core and interior grey, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2485.

IV.2 Jar, globular, wide mouth, angular funnel-neck, flaring rim. Reddish ochre, red slipped except bottom, core unoxidized, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2693.

IV.3 Fragment of jar, neck-less, broad double-beaked rim. Brick-red, cordon of stamped festoons below rim, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2472.

IV.4 Jar-fragment, globular, wide-mouthed, cylindrical neck with middle ridge and ridge below, beaked rim. Ochre, medium fine fabric (chaff-tempered). No. So II 2082.

V.96 Ring-stand, conical wall, bevelled lower rim, beaked upper rim, grooved, scratched symbols. Brick-red, core unoxidized, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2364.

V.97 Small ring-stand, reel-shaped. Reddish ochre, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2164.

V.98 Fragment of a pinnacle, conical corrugated head, constricted neck, deeply impressed arches on shoulder. Brick-red, red slip, core unoxidized, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 1676.

V.99 Fragmentary conical object, steep-walled, distinct throwing grooves inside. Brick-red, core grey, fine fabric. No. So II 2268.

Period VI. Pottery from Levels 15 to 12

VI.1 Bottle, ovoidal, long concave-sided neck with collar-rim. Brick-red, cream-coloured slip on neck, red slip on trunk, small hole in base of neck, fine fabric. No. So II 3094.

VI.2 Bottle-fragment, long slightly bulbous neck, banded rim. Brick-red, core unoxidized, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1577.

VI.3 Fragment of bottle(?), narrow long tapering neck with deeply profiled bulge. Light brick-red, red slipped smooth surface, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1323.

VI.4 Sprinkler, ovoidal, long concave-sided neck with disc-shaped top and conical mouth, wide pointed crop-spout with beaded rim. Brick-red, core unoxidized, smooth red slip on neck and shoulder, trunk daubed with micaceous slurry, medium fine fabric. No. So II 899.

VI.5 Small jar, lenticular, double-carinated, bottle-like narrow neck with thick beaked rim. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 798.

VI.6 Fragment of big jar, presumably globular, short vertical neck, out-leaning banded collar-rim. Brick-red, neck and shoulder red slipped, below slurry-daubed, medium fine fabric. No. So II 647.

VI.7 Big jar, oblate globular, upcurved neck, banded rim, internally concave. Brick-red, red slip except below shoulder (perhaps indicating the position of a spout), medium fine fabric. No. So II 709.

VI.8 Big jar, globular, recurved neck, flaring rim with internal edge, externally grooved. Brick-red, smooth surface, dark red slip, horizontal black painted stripes, medium fine fabric. No. So II 541.

VI.9 Big jar, globular, wide and short recurved neck, flaring slightly drooping rim with internal edge. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, black painted stripes, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1062.

VI.10 Big jar, globular, angular out-curved neck, rim externally and internally grooved, under-cut, grooved and ridged below neck. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, three bands of horizontal black painted stripes, fine fabric. No. So II 841.

VI.11 Big jar, globular, angular out-curved neck with externally and internally grooved band-rim. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, horizontal black painted stripes, fine fabric. No. So II 1251.

VI.12 Jar, oblate globular, recurved neck, beaded rim, grooved on both sides. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, horizontal black stripes, fine fabric. No. So II 802.

VI.13 Jar, oblate globular, nearly vertical neck, angular everted and undercut rim. Brick-red, red slip, horizontal black painted stripes, fine fabric. No. So II 843.

VI.14 Jar-fragment, wide mouth, very short neck, thick curved rim, grooved and ridges underneath and inside. Dark brick-red, horizontal black painted stripes, fine fabric. No. So II 2206.

VI.15 Jar-fragment, bulbous trunk, gently recurved neck with broad collar-ledge, angular everted rim. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, horizontal black painted stripes, medium fabric. No. So II 958.

VI.16 Jar, wide-mouthed, bulbous, angular neck with thin collar-ledge, rim flaring, bevelled and everted, concave base with protruding edge. Brick-red, smooth red slip, groups of horizontal black painted stripes, fine fabric. No. So II 839.

VI.17 Jar, ovoidal, recurved neck above broad collar-ledge, flaring horizontal rim. Brick-red, smooth red slip, horizontal black painted stripes, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1162.

VI.18 Jar-fragment, globular, high shoulder, recurved neck with broad collar-ledge, bevelled undercut rim. Brick-red, core unoxidized, smooth red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1237.

VI.19 Jar, heart-shaped profile, angular out-curved neck, channelled club-rim. Brick-red, core unoxidized, smooth surface, red slip, horizontal black painted stripes, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1125.

VI.20 Jar, flattened globular, flat bottom, concave neck, channelled and bevelled collar-rim. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, horizontal black painted stripes, fine fabric. No. So II 822.

VI.21 Jar, compact heart-shaped profile, concave bottom, steep funnel-neck, flaring everted rim, conical spout with pointed crop. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, horizontal black painted stripes, medium fine fabric. No. So II 846.

VI.22 Jar, globular, recurved neck, banded grooved collar-rim, bevelled inwards, slightly bulging ringed spout. Brick-red, neck and shoulder red slipped on smooth surface, below slurry-daubed, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1130.

VI.23 Jar, oblate globular, saggar-base, recurved neck, everted rim, ridge below neck, conical spout with beaded rim, paddled pellets & ridges pattern on upper half of trunk. Brick-red, smooth surface, rim and interior of neck red slipped, the paddled pattern washed with mica-slip, fine fabric. No. So II 970.

VI.24 Small jar, conical side, saggar-base, vertical neck, short corrugated oblique rim, conical spout. Light brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1240.

VI.25 Double-spout of a jar. Brick-red, daubed with micaceous slurry, fine fabric. No. So II 1409.

VI.26 Small jar, ovoidal, funnel-neck with flaring rim, flat bottom, pointed crop-spout. Brick-red, red slipped, interior of neck and rim gold-slipped, fine fabric. No. So II 925.

VI.27 Jar, heart-shaped in section, conical neck, flaring deeply grooved rim, spout missing. Brick-red, red slipped smooth surface, interior of neck and rim gold-slipped, fine fabric. No. So II 943.

VI.28 Jar-fragment, globular, narrow neck, bowl-shaped bevelled rim. Brick-red, daubed with micaceous slurry from shoulder downwards, fine fabric. No. So II 135.

VI.29 Jar, wheel-shaped with inwards sloping shoulder (saddle-shoulder), very short neck, flaring undercut rim, short crop-spout, saggar-base. Brick-red, belly decorated with dabs of slurry, shoulder, neck and rim red slipped, partly gold-painted, fine fabric. No. So II 946.

VI.30 Jar, lenticular, steep funnel-neck, short undercut band-rim with groove on top. Brick-red, core unoxidized, black painted stripes, lobed bands and swans, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1205.

VI.31 Jar, lenticular, angular flaring rim. Brick-red, red slip, black painted lobed necklace, fine fabric. No. So II 971.

VI.32 Jar, heart-shaped in section, flat bottom, out-curved neck, band-rim concave with S-curved notches. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, fine fabric. No. So II 434.

VI.33 Jar, pyriform, recurved neck with small ridge, sharp-edged bevelled rim. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 982.

VI.34 Jar, globular, steep funnel-neck, short drooping rim, base of neck grooved. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 940.

VI.35 Jar, lenticular, steep tapering neck, thick banded rim, grooves and impressed curved notches on shoulder, groups of impressed concentric circles on rim and belly. Brick-red, smooth surface, red slip, fine fabric. No. So II 937.

VI.36 Small jar, oblate globular trunk, flat foot, wide neck, flaring bevelled rim, grooved belly. Light brick-red, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1202.

VI.37 Small jar, double-bulging, flat bottom, short recurved neck, band-rim. Brick-red, core unoxidized, medium fabric. No. So II 1080.

VI.38 Small carinated jar, flat foot, conical shoulder, bulging lower trunk, flaring rim. Brick-red, red slip, fine fabric. No. So II 628.

VI.39 Small jar, squat bulbous, saggar-base, recurved short neck, thick rim grooved on top and outside, groove on shoulder. Brick-red, core unoxidized, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1241.

VI.40 Small jar, globular, narrow neck, flaring bevelled rim, flat foot. Brick-red, medium fine fabric, No. So II 2090.

VI.41 Small lenticular jar, flat base, steep funnel-neck, everted beaded rim. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 818.

VI.42 Small jar, lenticular, narrow distinct foot, neckless. Dark grey, fine fabric. No. So II 400.

VI.43 Pitcher, pyriform, out-curved neck, bevelled rim, finger-drawn open spout (pouring lip), flattened bottom. Brick-red, red slipped, fine fabric. No. So II 387.

VI.44 Cooking vessel, carinated, lenticular lower trunk, long conical shoulder, up-curved neck with grooves and ridges, angular flaring rim grooved on top. Brick-red, shoulder and rim red slipped, medium fine fabric. No. So II 868.

VI.45 Cooking vessel, slightly bulging lower trunk, small carination ledge, conical shoulder, grooved, angular steep beaded rim. Brick-red, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 989.

VI.46 Cooking vessel, carinated, angular flaring rim, slightly curved down, grooved on top. Brick-red, core unoxidized, red slip, black painted horizontal stripes, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1285.

VI.47 Cooking vessel, carinated, out-curved rim. Brick-red, core unoxidized, smooth red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1442.

VI.48 Cooking vessel, lenticular, without carination, angular flaring rim, grooved on top. Brick-red, red slip, black painted horizontal stripes, fine fabric. No. So II 823.

VI.49 Cooking vessel, globular, angular rim, carination very low. Light brick-red, smooth surface, red slip above carination, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1096.

VI.50 Cooking vessel, bulging lower trunk, pronounced up-turned carination, concave shoulder, angular everted double-edged rim, shoulder grooved. Brick-red, shoulder and rim smooth, red slipped, lower trunk slurry-daubed, medium fine fabric. No. So II 857.

VI.51 Cooking vessel, wide mouth, carinated, lower trunk lenticular, conical shoulder, angular flaring rim, shoulder and rim grooved. Brick-red, red slip, fine fabric. No. So II 811.

VI.52 Cooking vessel, lenticular lower trunk, up-turned carination, conical shoulder, angular flaring and down-curved double-edged and grooved rim. Ochre, core grey, red slipped rim and shoulder, interior of bottom micaceous, fine fabric. No. So II 2126.

VI.53 Cooking vessel, nearly globular, up-turned carination ridge, angular funnel-rim with drooping edge, partly scalloped. Brick-red, shoulder and rim smooth, red slipped, lower trunk slurry-daubed, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1193.

VI.54 Bowl with bulging wall, sharply angular flaring and drooping rim, concave bottom. Brick-red, smooth red slipped surface, black painted horizontal stripes on trunk, other painted ornaments on rim, fine fabric. No. So II 587.

VI.55 Hemispherical bowl, horizontal flange with sharp inner edge and stepped off rim. Brick-red, interior red slipped on smooth surface, exterior slurry-daubed, medium fine fabric. No. So II 1073.

VI.56 Large bowl, lenticular bottom, banded rim. Brick-red, smooth red slipped surface, fine fabric. No. So II 1208.

VI.57 Heavy bowl, flat base, funnel-wall, bevelled rim, ridge below rim. Brick-red, interior and rim red slipped, medium fine fabric. No. So II 984.

VI.58 Heavy bowl, flat base, funnel-wall, thick concave banded rim. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 767.

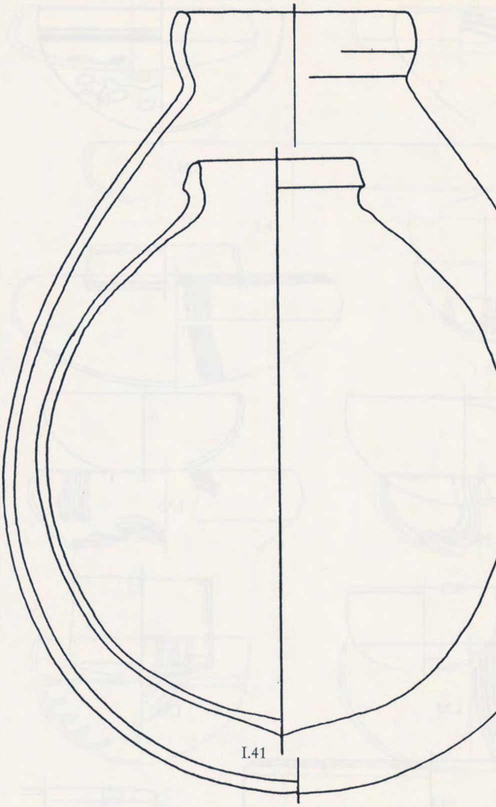
VI.59 Heavy bowl, flat base, slightly bulging funnel-wall, broad beaded rim. Brick-red, interior red slipped, traces of black paint, medium fine fabric. No. So II 807.

VI.60 Shallow funnel-bowl with stepped-up flange, flat base. Brick-red, interior red slipped, fine fabric. No. So II 1072.

VI.61 Large dish, carinated out-leaning wall, bevelled rim, flat bottom. Brick-red, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 794.

VI.62 Large bowl, carinated, lenticular bottom, concave upper trunk, stepped rim with sharp inner edge, two lug-handles attached to rim. Light brick-red, core unoxidized, bottom slurry-daubed, medium coarse fabric. No. So II 1134.

VI.63 Dish or shallow bowl, flat bottom, slightly concave out-leaning wall, flat-topped double-edged rim with groove and impressed cuneiform dots, incised rosette in centre. Brick-red, core unoxidized, red slip, medium fine fabric. No. So II 523.



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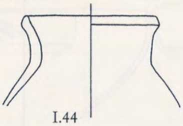

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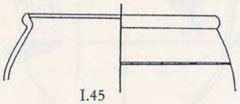

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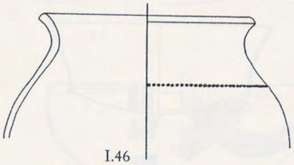

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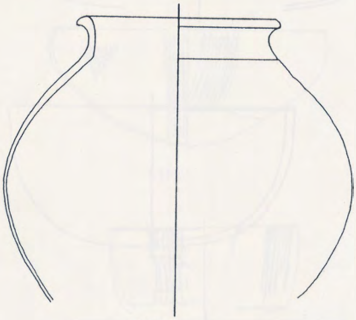

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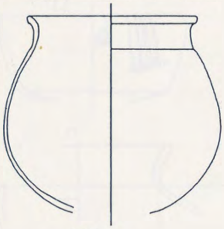

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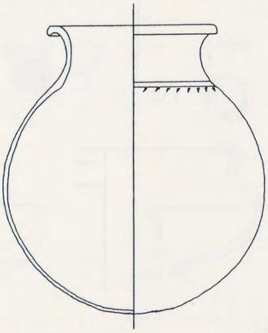

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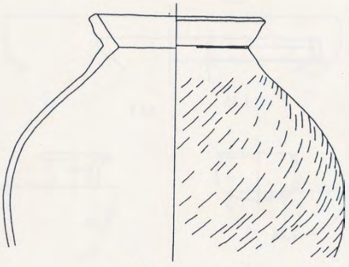

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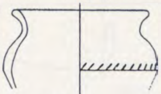
Pottery from Period I. 1/4



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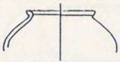

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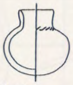

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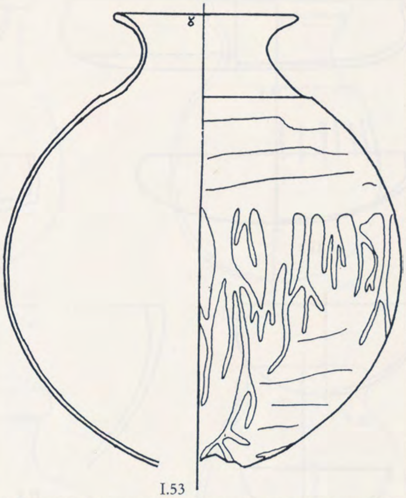

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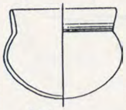

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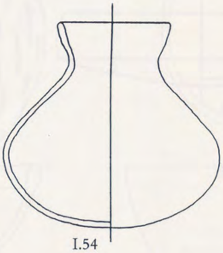

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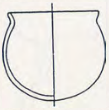

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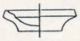

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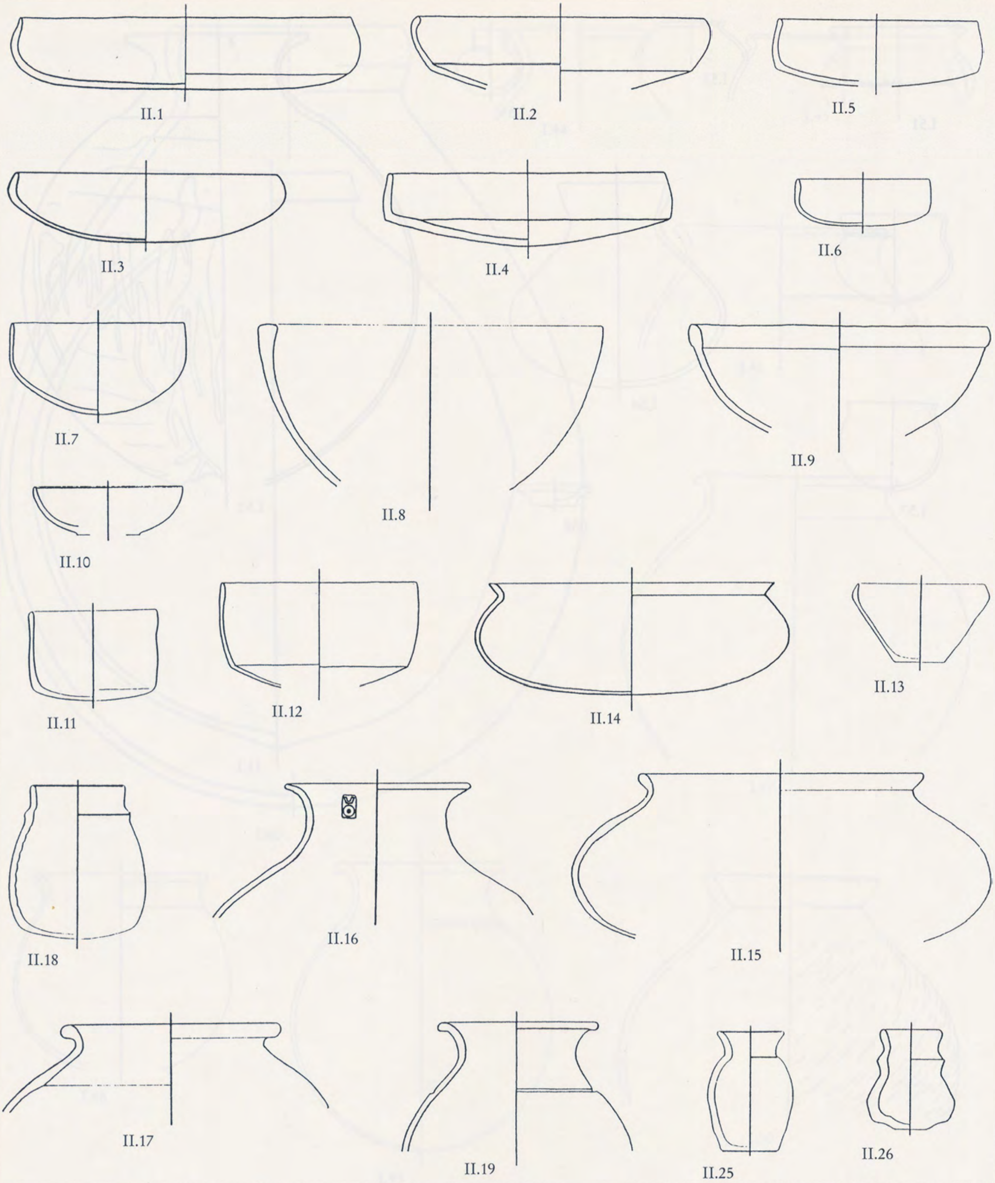
Pottery from Period I. 1/4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II.3
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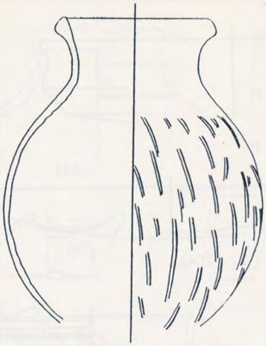
II.25
II.26

Pottery from Period II. 1/4



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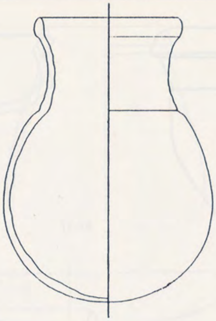

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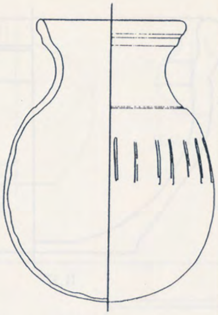

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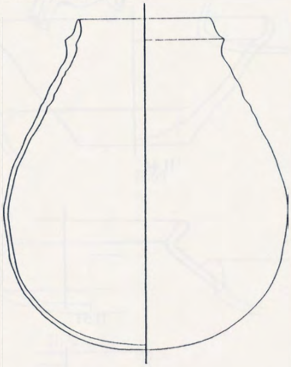

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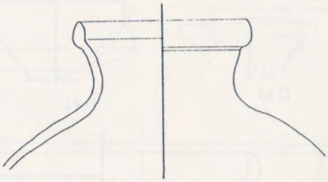

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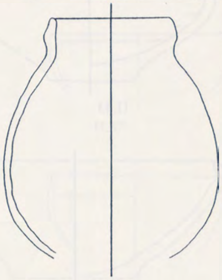

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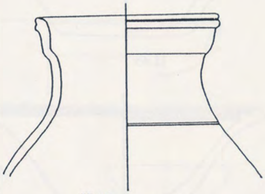

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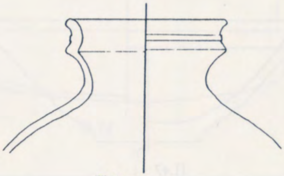

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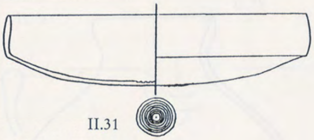

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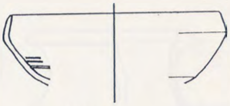

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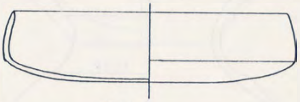

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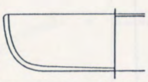

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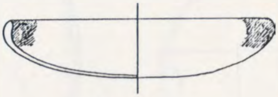

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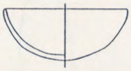

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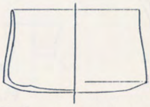

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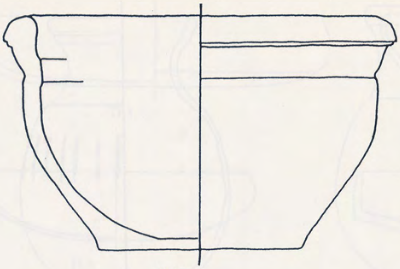
Pottery from Period II. 1/4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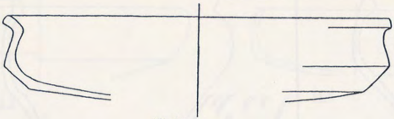
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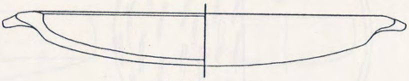
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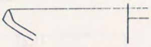
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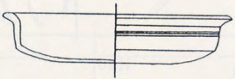
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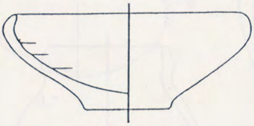
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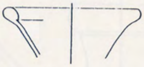
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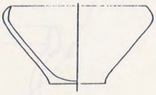
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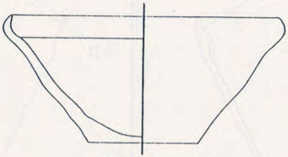
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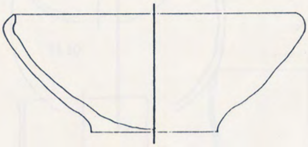
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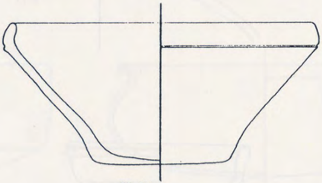
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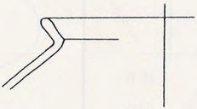
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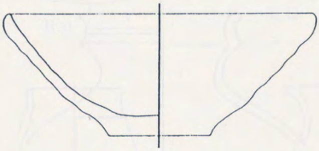
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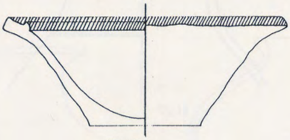
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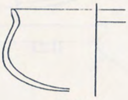
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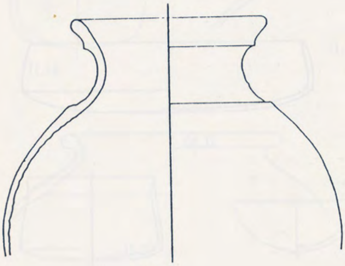
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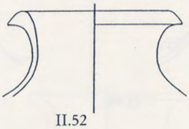
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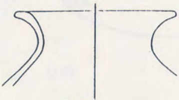
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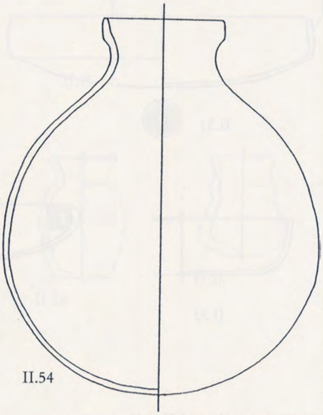
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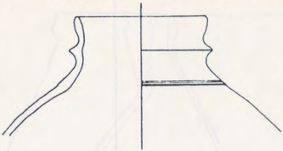
Pottery from Period II. 1/4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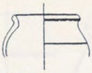
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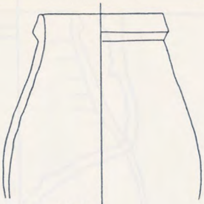
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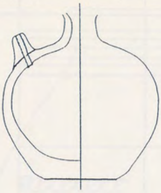
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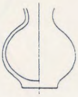
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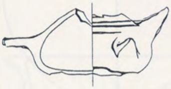
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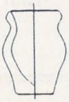
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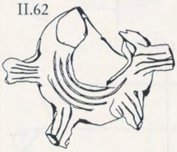

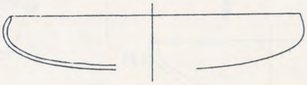
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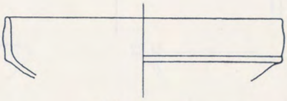
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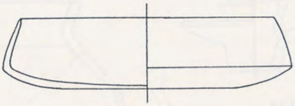
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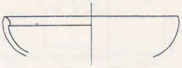
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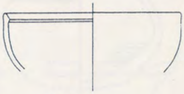
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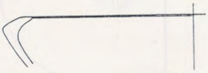
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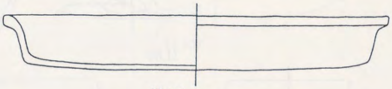
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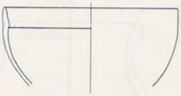
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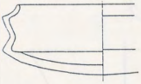
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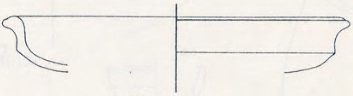
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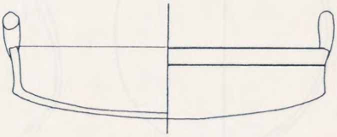
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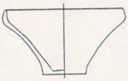
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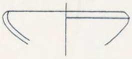
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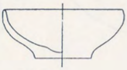
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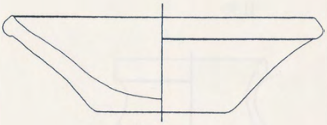
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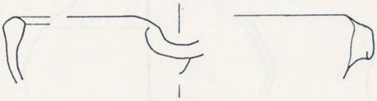
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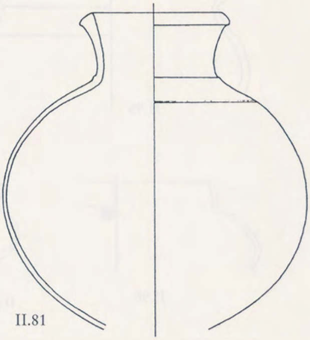
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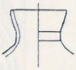
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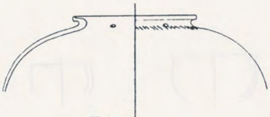
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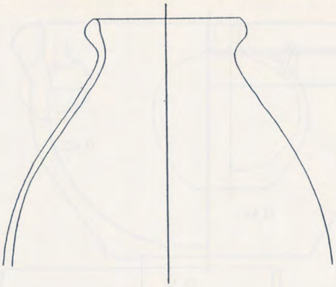
Pottery from Period II. 1/4



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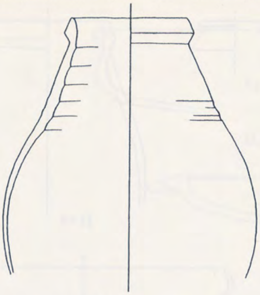

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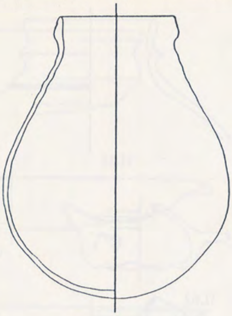

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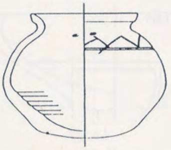

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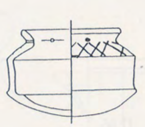

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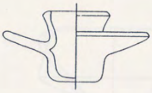

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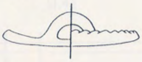

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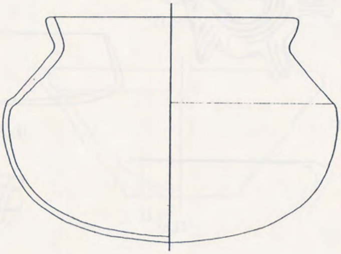

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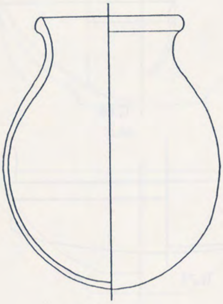

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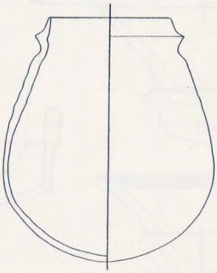

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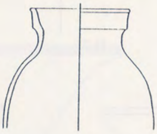

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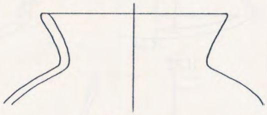

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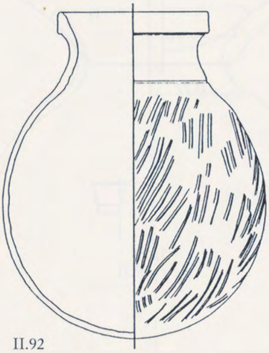

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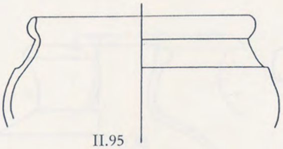

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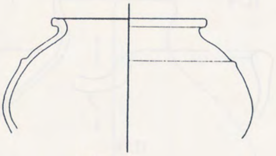

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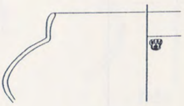

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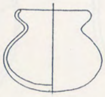

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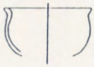

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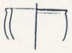

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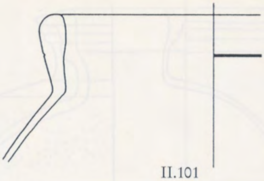
Pottery from Period II. 1/4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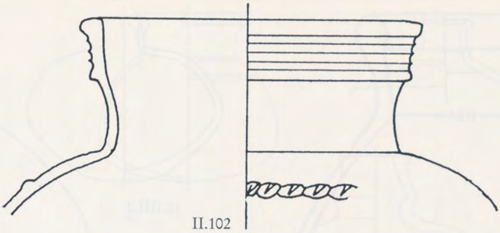
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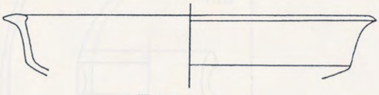
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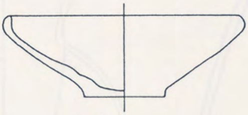
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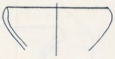
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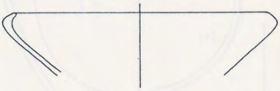
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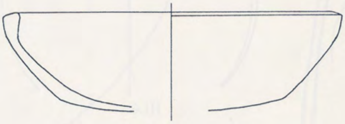
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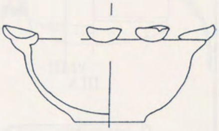
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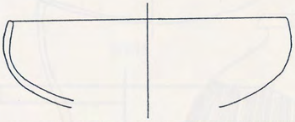
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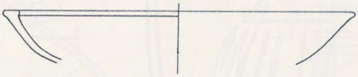
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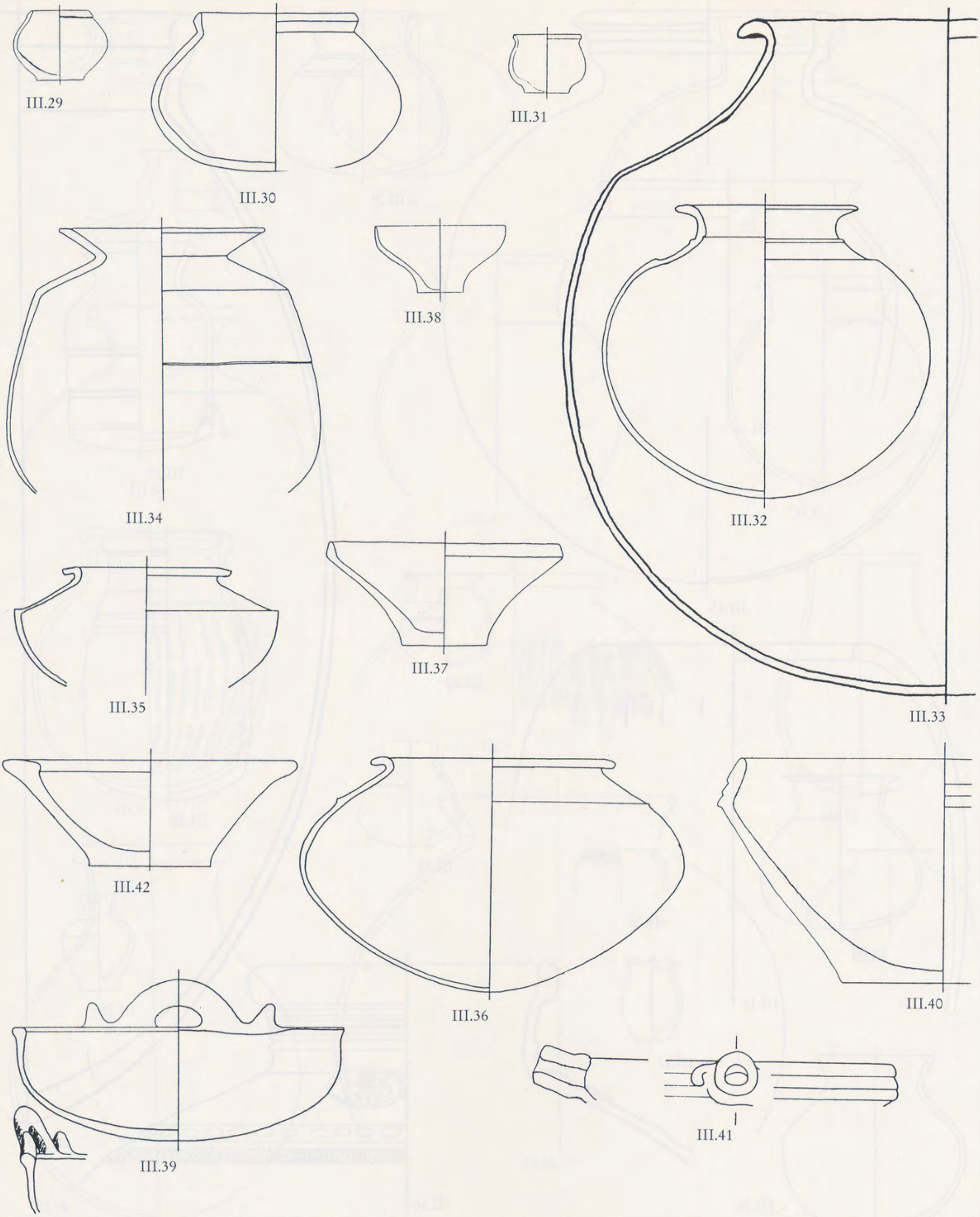
Pottery from Period II. 1/4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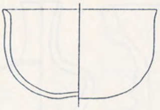
Pottery from Period III. 1/4



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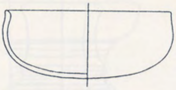

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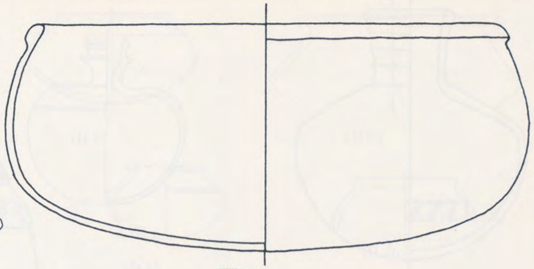

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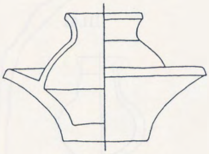

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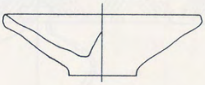

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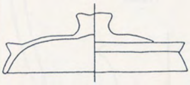

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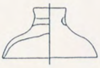

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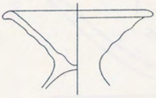

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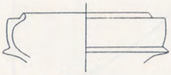

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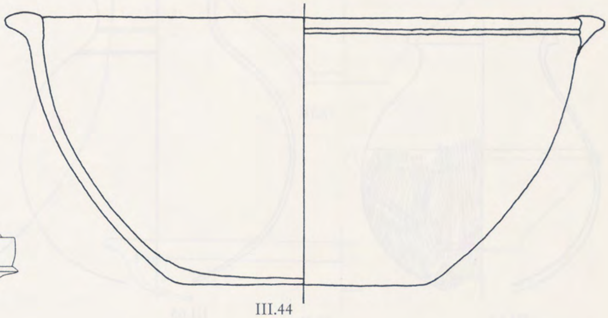

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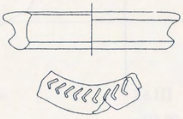

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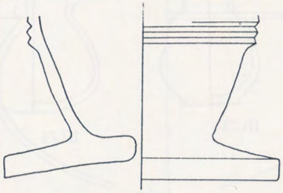

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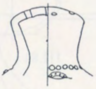

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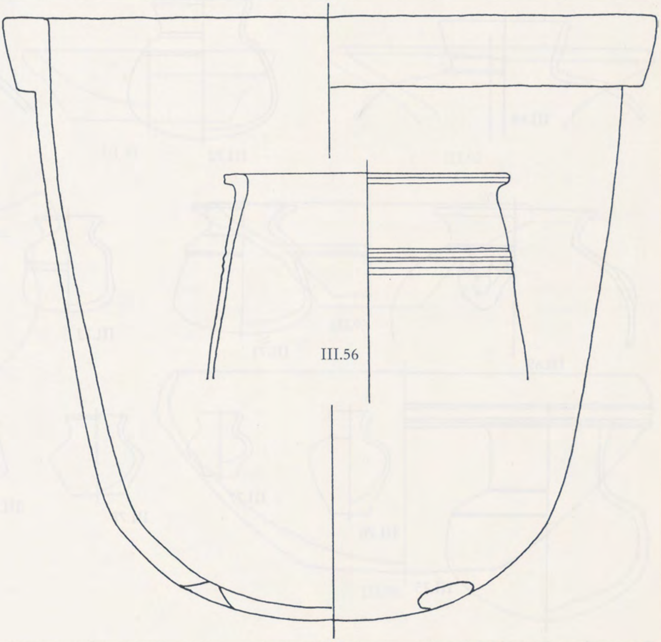

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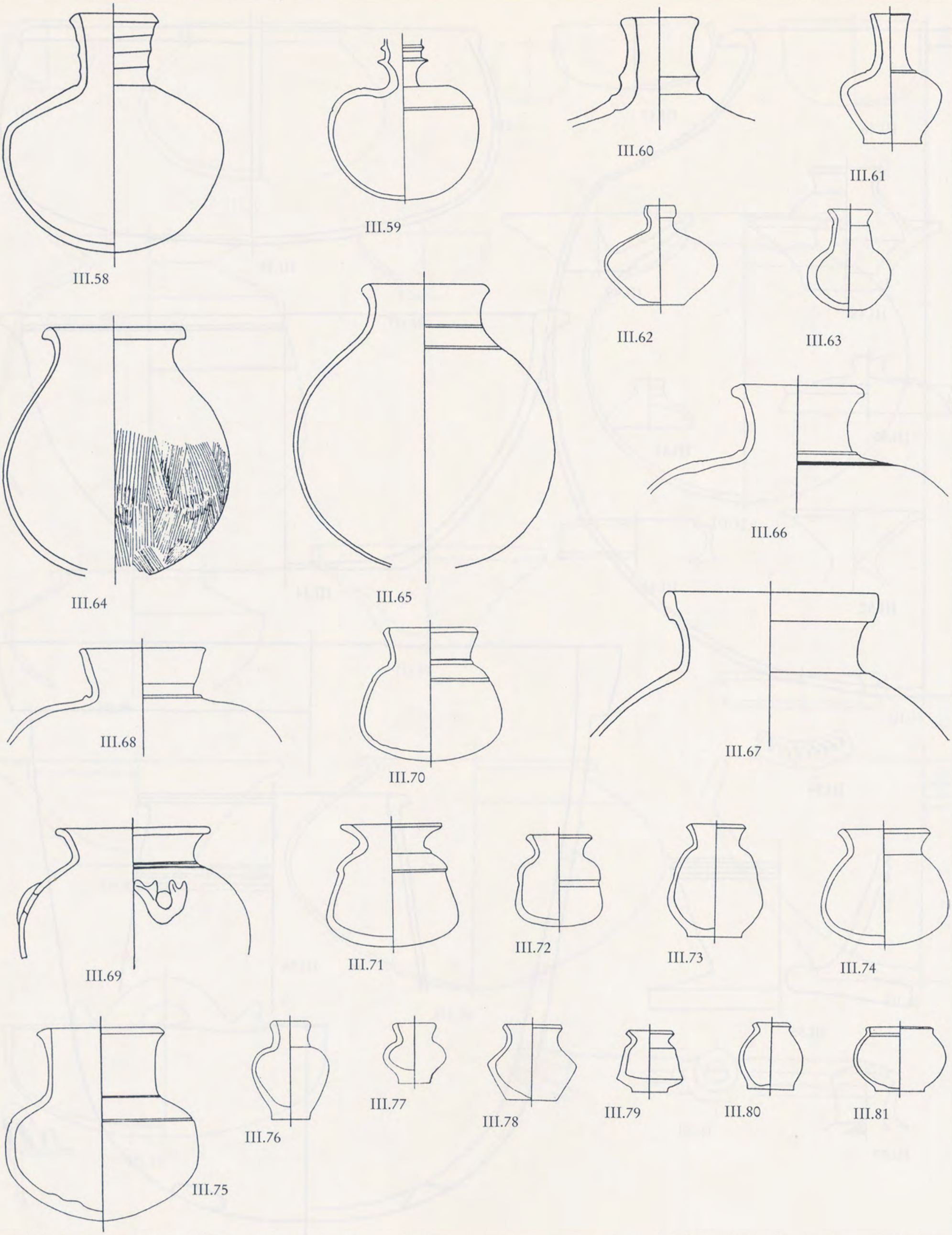
III.45

Pottery from Period III. 1/4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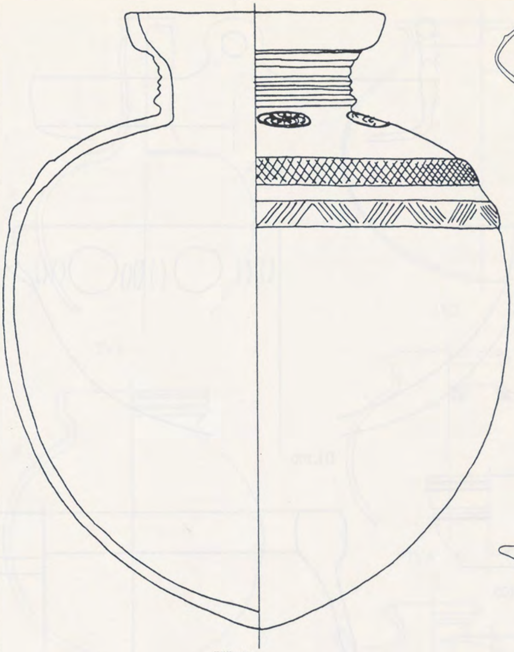
Pottery from Period III. 1/4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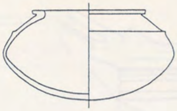
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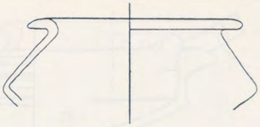
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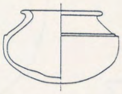
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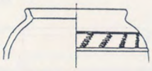
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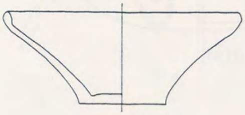
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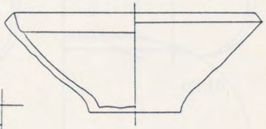
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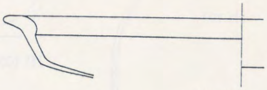
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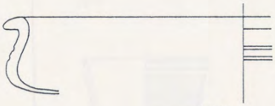
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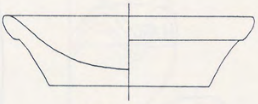
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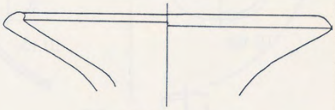
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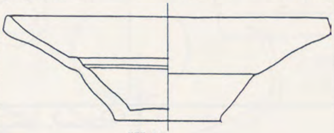
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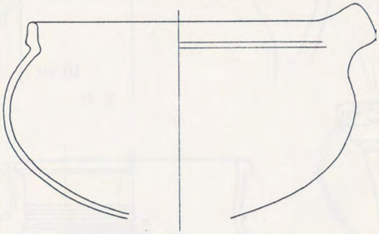
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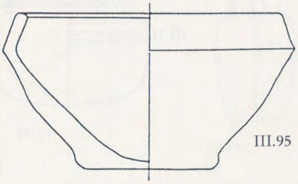
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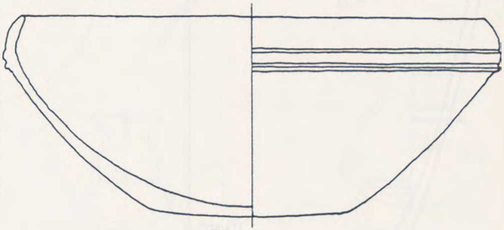
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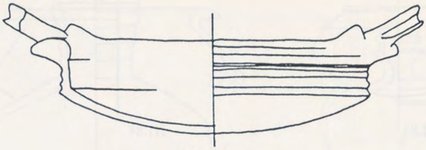
Pottery from Period III. 1/4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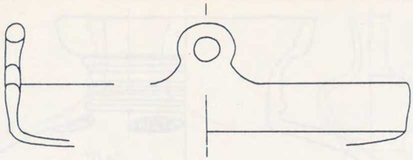
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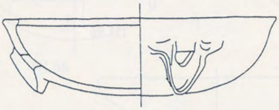
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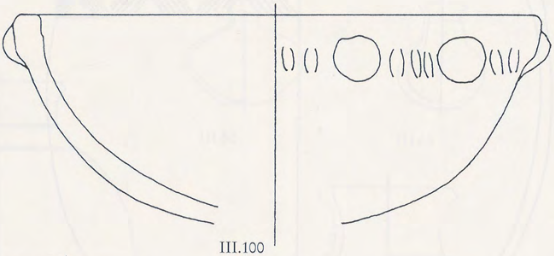
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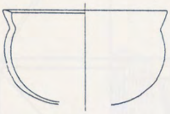
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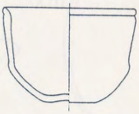
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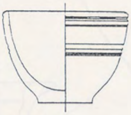
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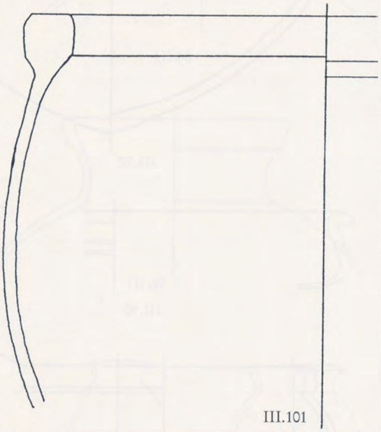
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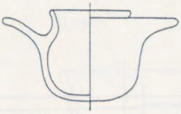
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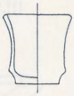
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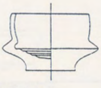
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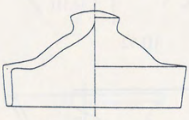
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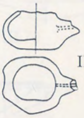
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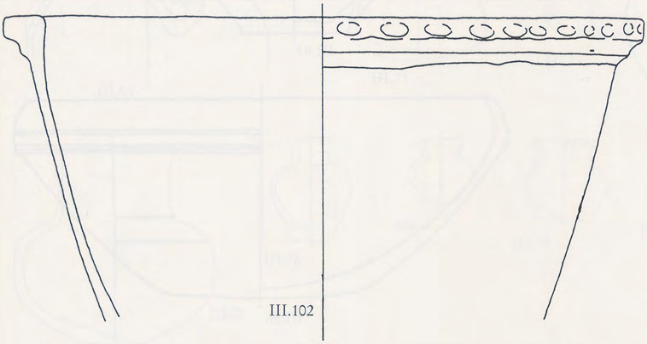
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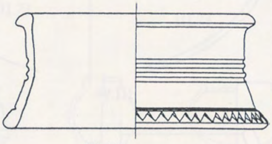
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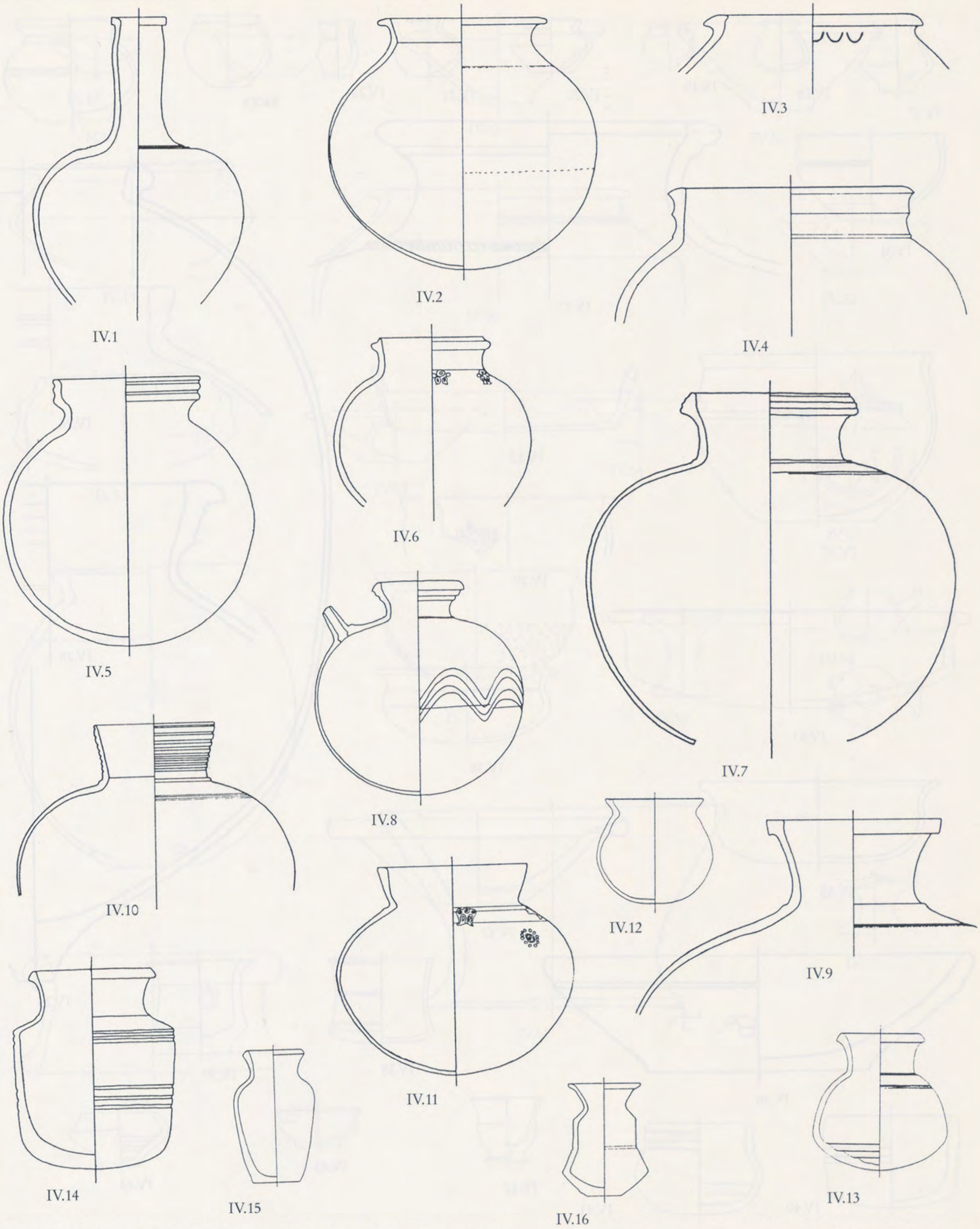
Pottery from Period III. 1/4



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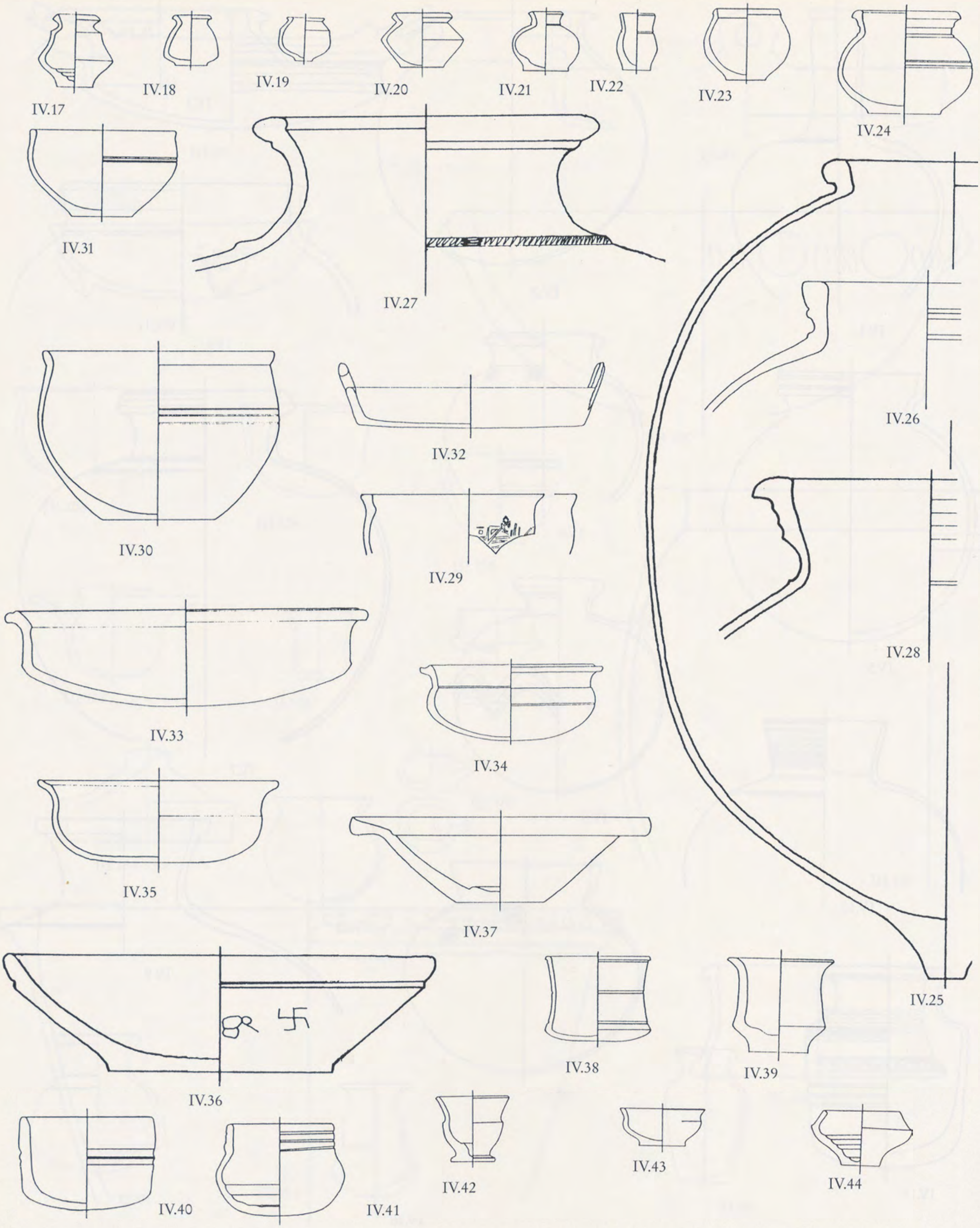
Pottery from Period IV. 1/4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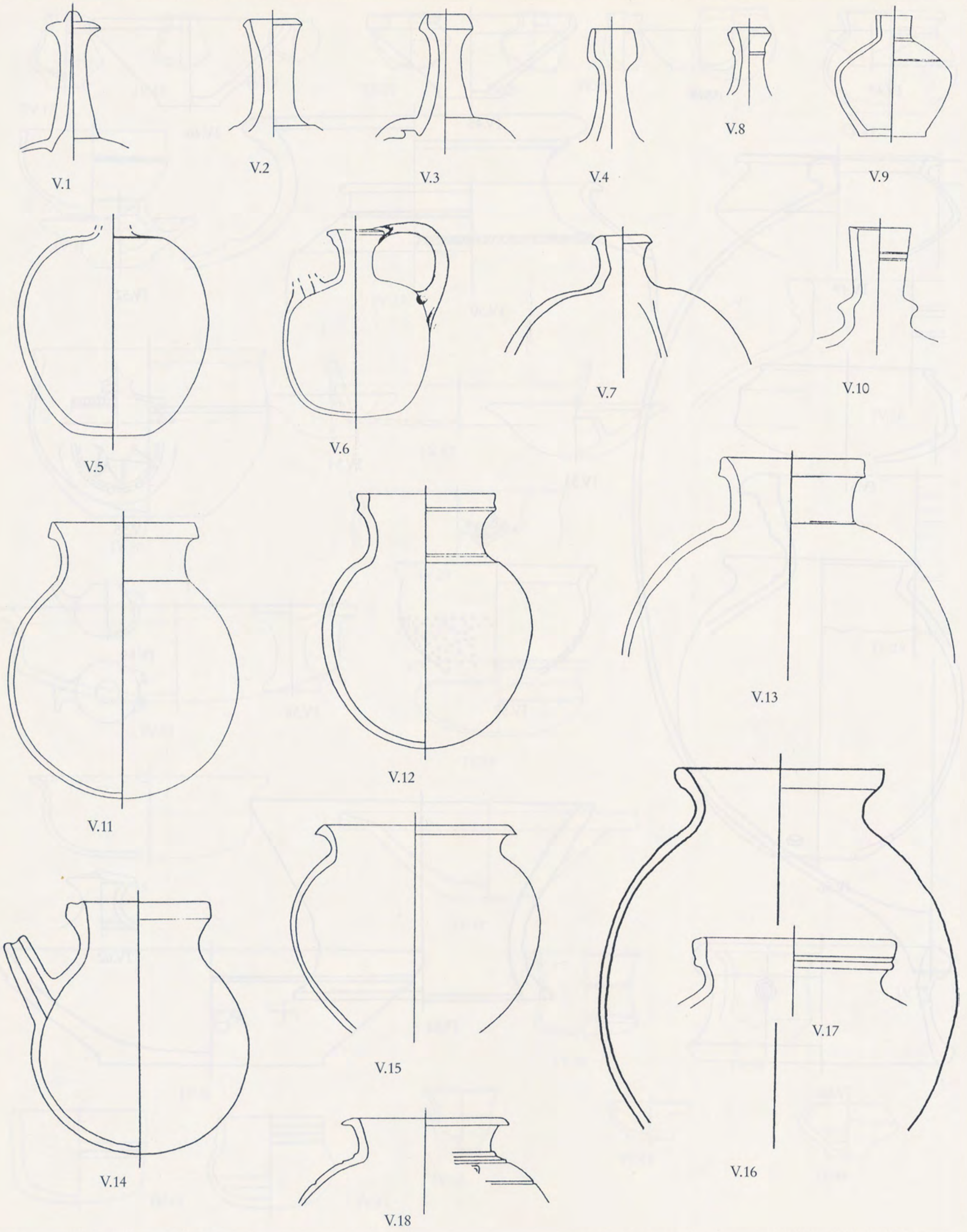
Pottery from Period IV. 1/4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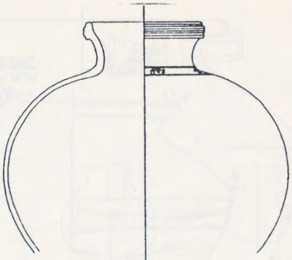
Pottery from Period V. 1/4



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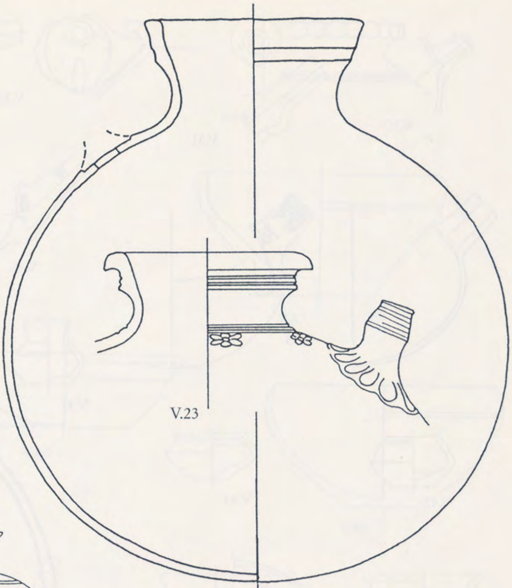

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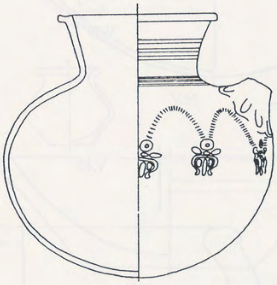

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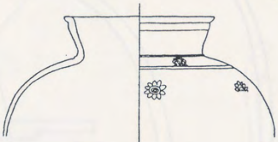

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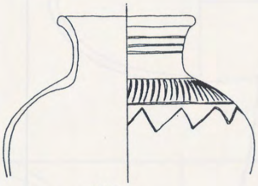

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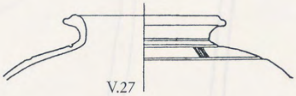

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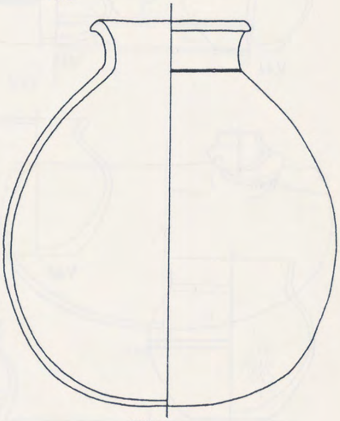

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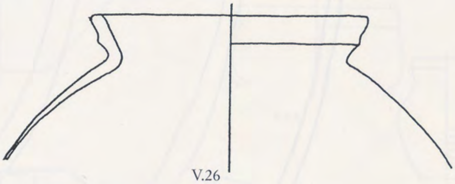

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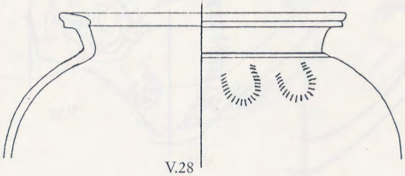

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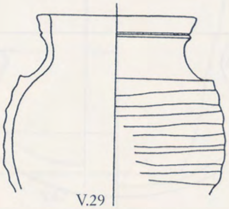

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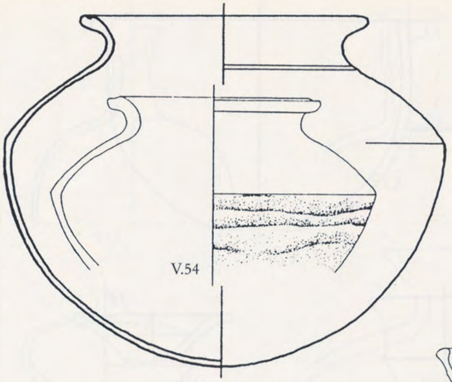
Pottery from Period V. 1/4



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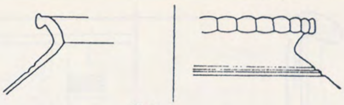

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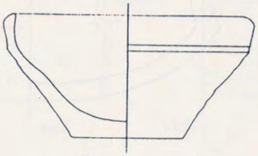

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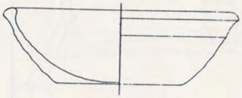

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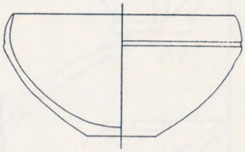

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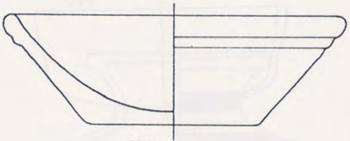

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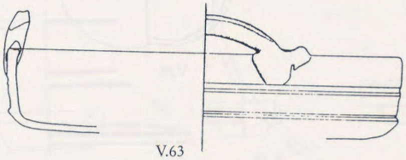

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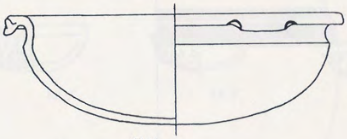

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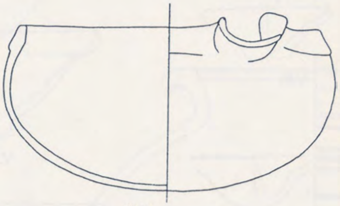

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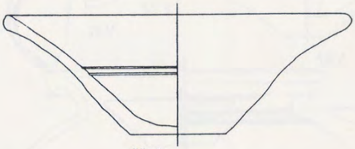

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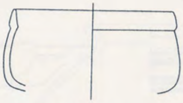

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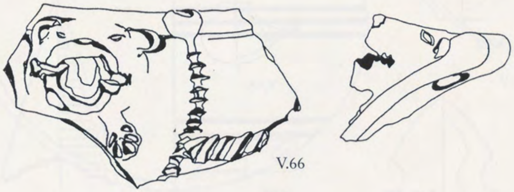

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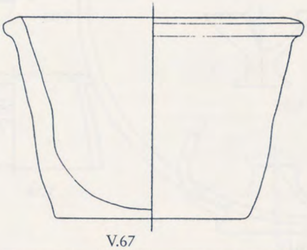

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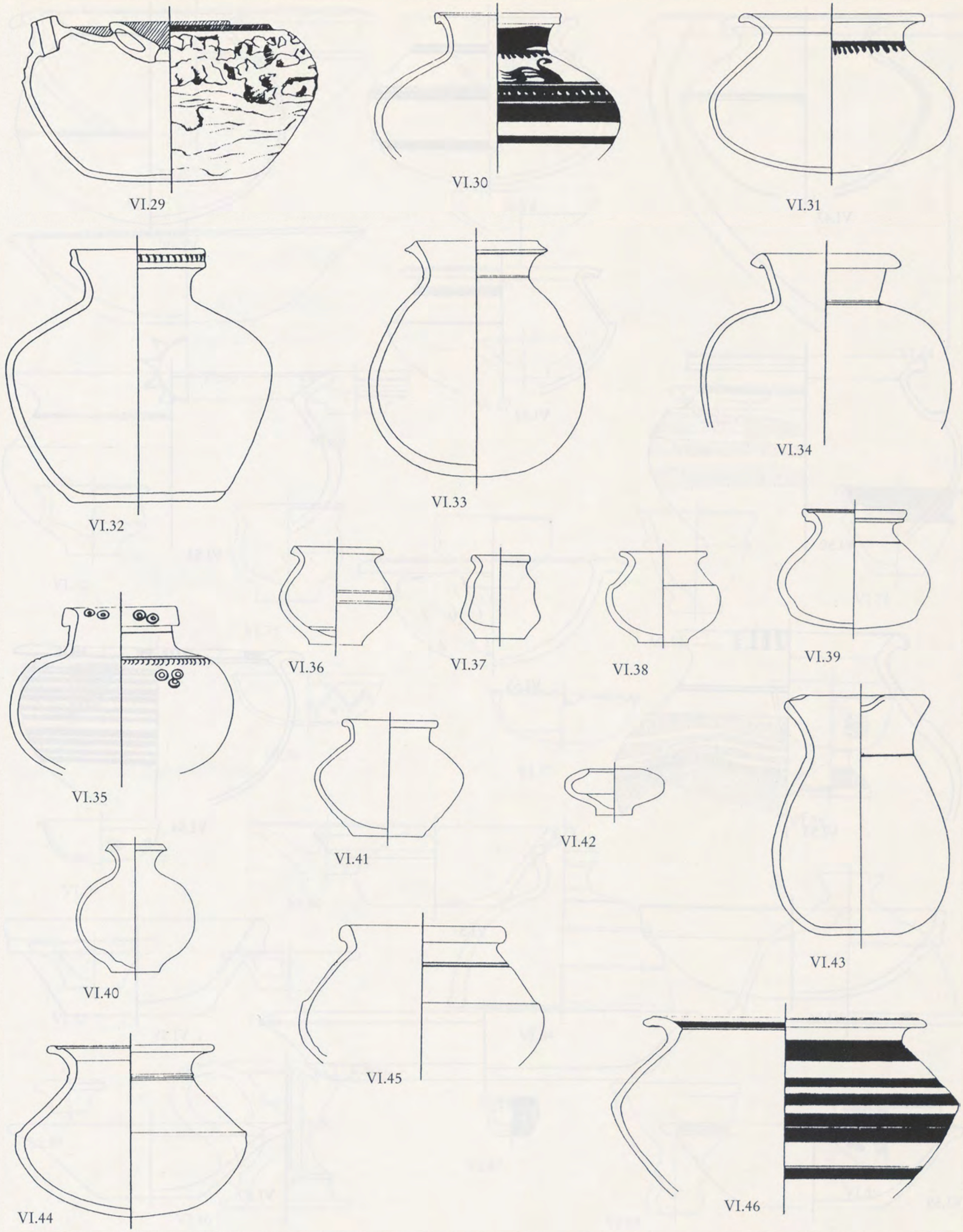
Pottery from Period V. 1/4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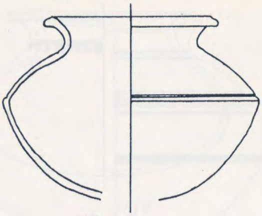
Pottery from Period VI. 1/4



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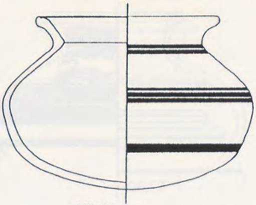

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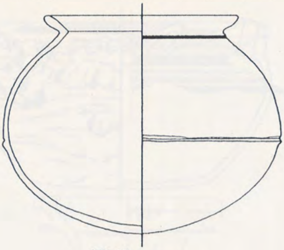

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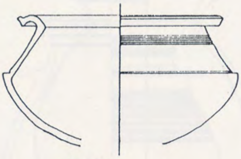

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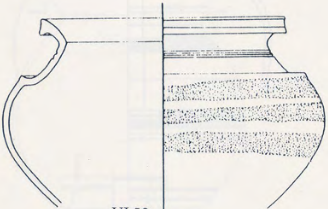

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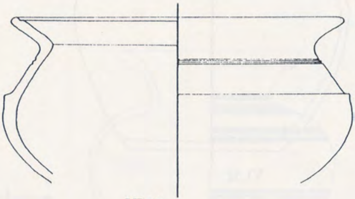

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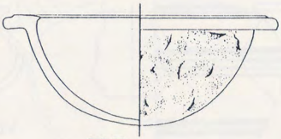

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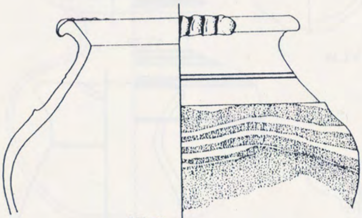

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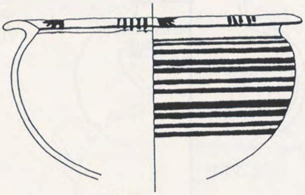

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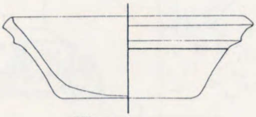

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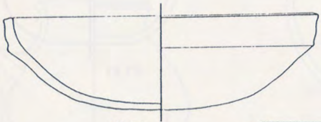

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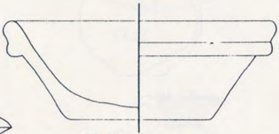

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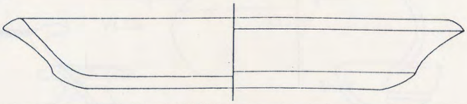

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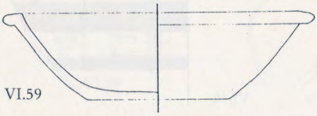

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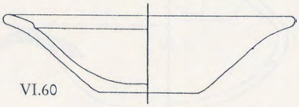

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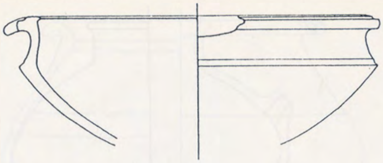
Pottery from Period VI. 1/4



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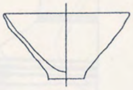

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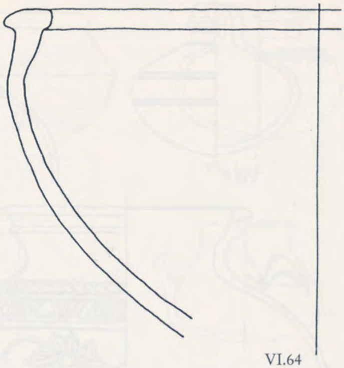

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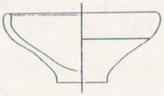

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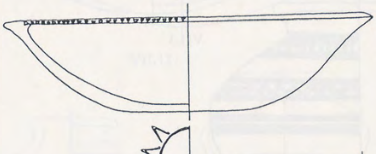

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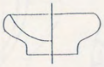

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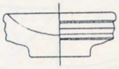

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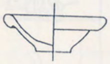

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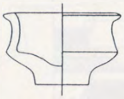

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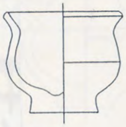

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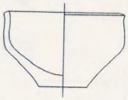

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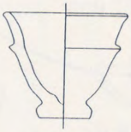

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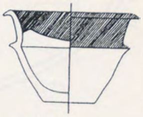

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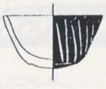

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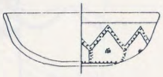

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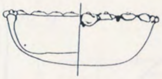

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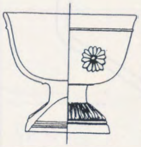

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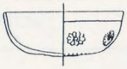

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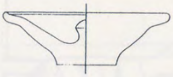

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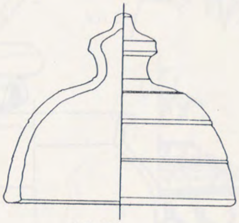

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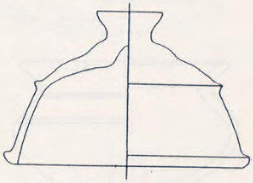

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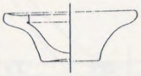

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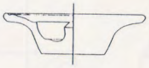

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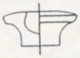

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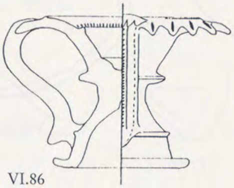

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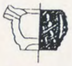

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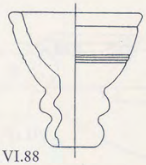

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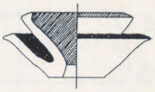

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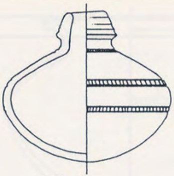
Pottery from Period VI. 1/4



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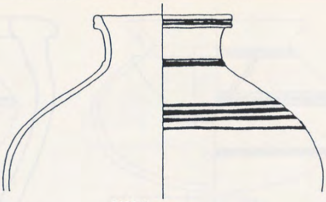

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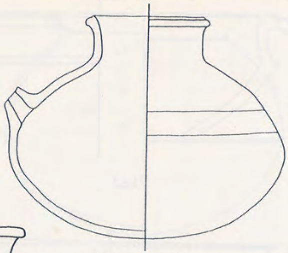

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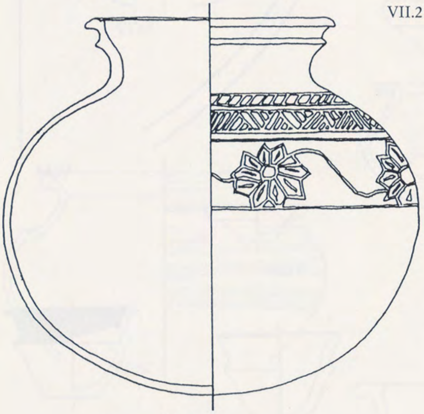

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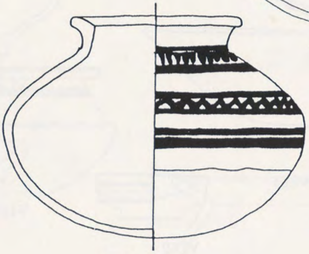

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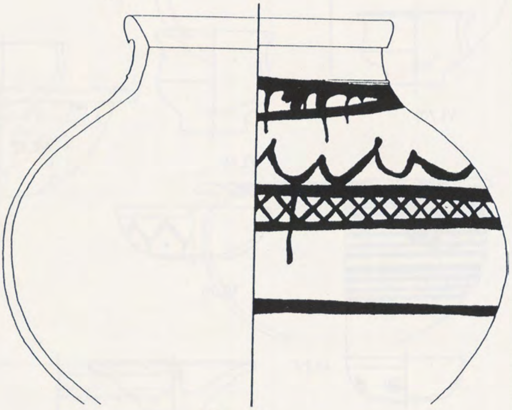

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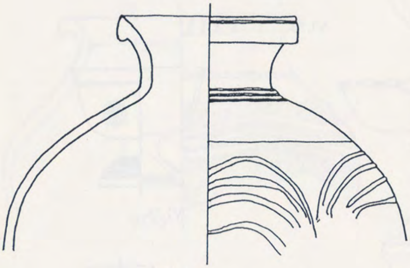

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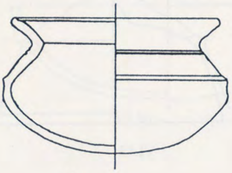

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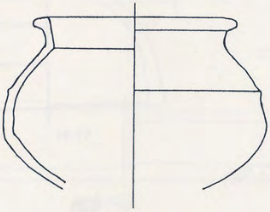

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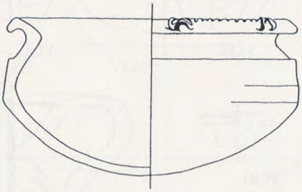

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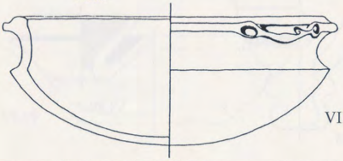

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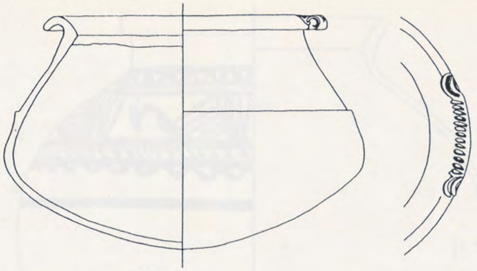
Pottery from Period VII. 1/4



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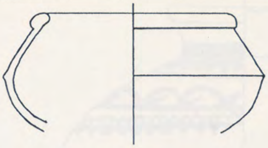

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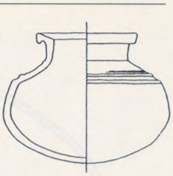

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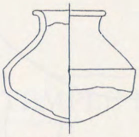

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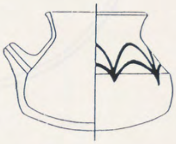

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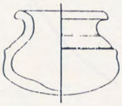

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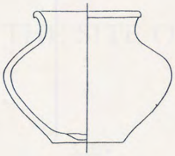

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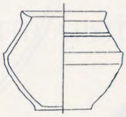

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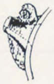

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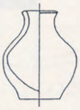

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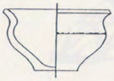

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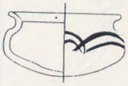

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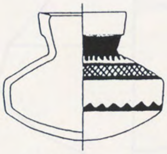

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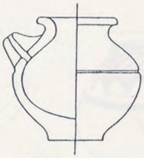

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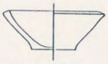

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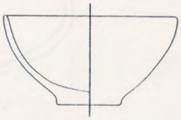

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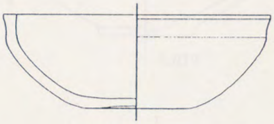

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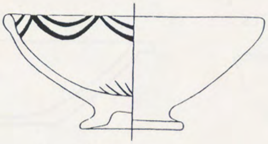

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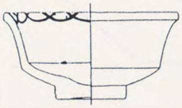

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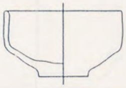

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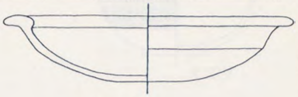

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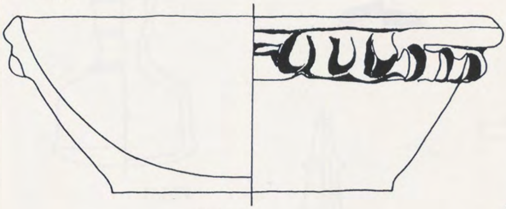

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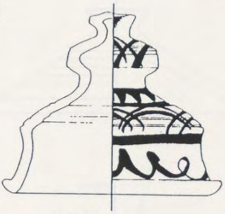

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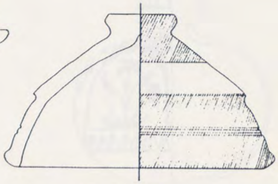

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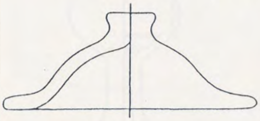

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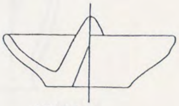

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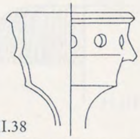

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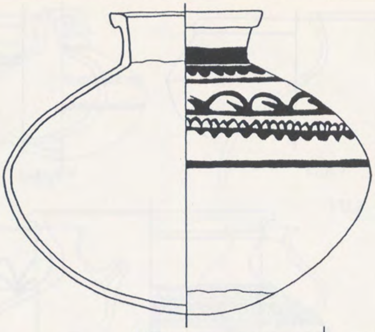
Pottery from Period VII. 1/4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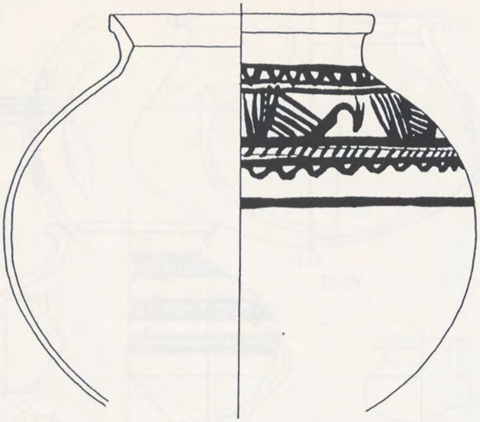
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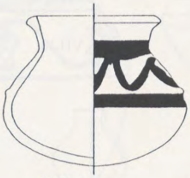
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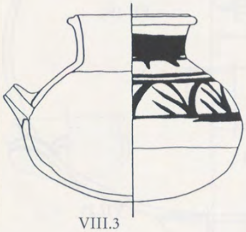
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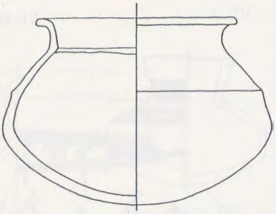
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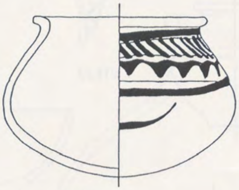
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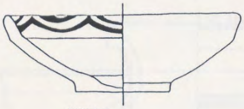
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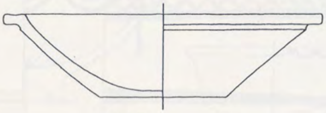
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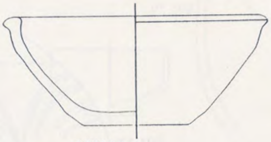
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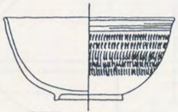
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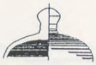
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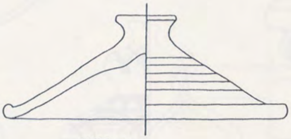
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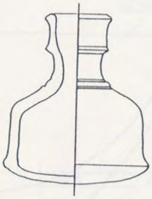
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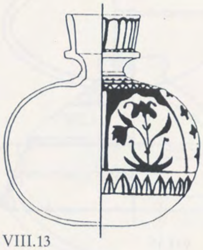
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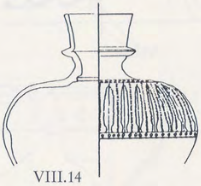
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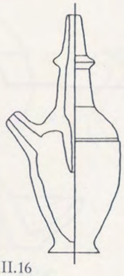
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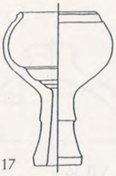

VIII.17

Pottery from Period VIII. 1/4

PART II

THE SITE OF THE APSIDAL TEMPLE No. 2

I. DISCOVERY

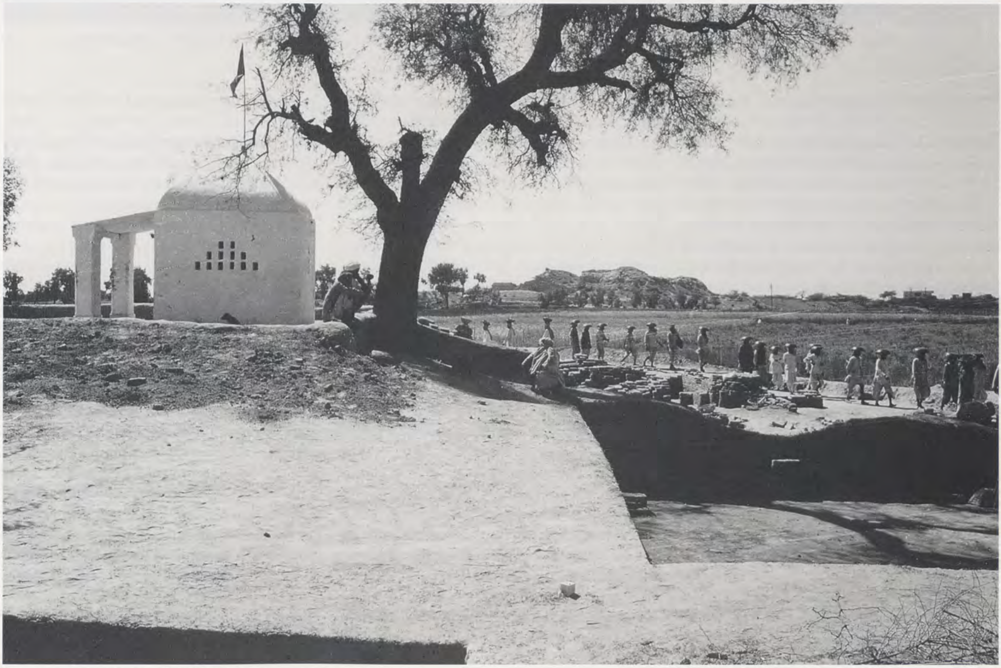
During the excavation on the large plateau of the hill of Sonkh, as already reported, we came upon a succession of seven Kuṣāṇa levels with the remnants of houses, streets and places which were grouped around a central brick-built temple. This Apsidal Temple no. 1 is comparatively small although it was often renovated, reconstructed and also enlarged. As it seems, the walls were only plastered and not artistically decorated. It was, therefore, all the more astonishing that in the filling debris of the upper Kuṣāṇa levels fragments of Kuṣāṇa stone reliefs and stone railings were found again and again. As it could not be assumed that these fragments were brought from very far, there must have existed some temples with stone balustrades in the neighbourhood of the mound.

In course of time the originally larger area around the hill on the eastern, western and northern sides had been ploughed and cleared away by the peasants. In the south, the wide-spread village of Sonkh extends on to the spurs of the ancient mound. In the north, the area was bounded by a river. Could the temple have stood by its banks? This question would have remained unanswered, had there not been a small area of the old elevated ground left in the midst of the fields. At this place, an old stone sculpture of a Nāgarāja had once been accidentally found, which the local people began to worship (Stone Sculpt.no. 22). A small building constructed around this sculpture marked the ground as a temple site. In this way, the surrounding area of about 2600 sqm remained preserved within the fields. The sculpture is today worshipped as *Cāmardevī*, i.e. *Cāmuṇḍā*, by the women of the neighbouring villages (Fig. II.1).

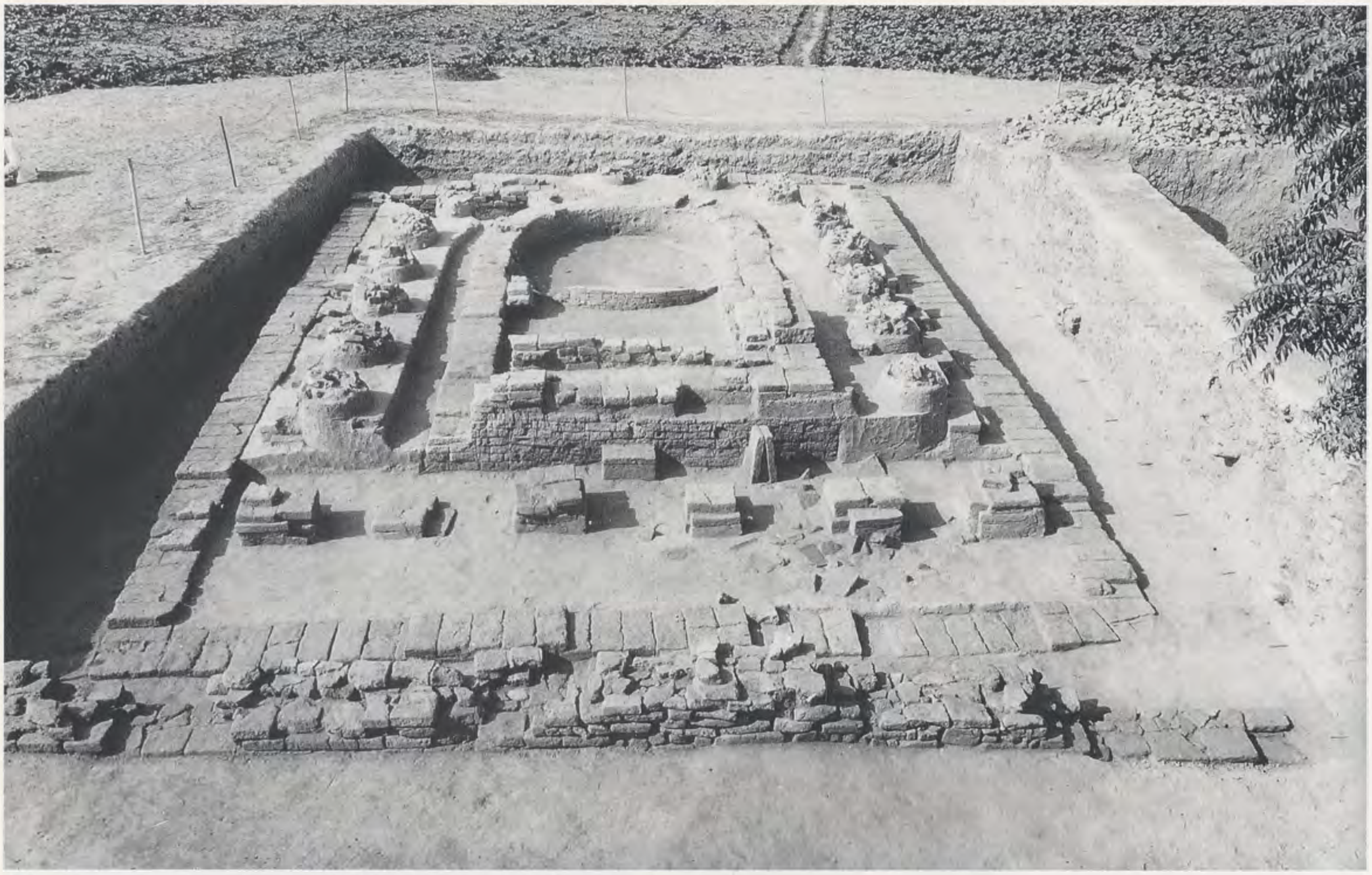
The temple island, as one may call it, is situated 400 m north of the main field of excavation, quite close to the modern canal (Fig. Part I, no. 6), square 6 III–V/Cb–Cd. After a thorough inspection of this area and the discovery of a wall built of pre-Kuṣāṇa bricks sticking out from the slope in the south-east we laid, in the spring of 1971, a trial trench on the southern side of the modern temple platform and came across a round structure of mud-bricks directly below the surface. The result encouraged us to examine the site more accurately in the winter of 1971/72 and 1972/73. Very soon it became evident that this area to the south of the platform contained the remains of a second apsidal temple and it did not take long to find out that the structures belonged to, at least, two different phases of a temple building. To clear the structural context it was now inevitable to carefully dig up the whole remaining area of the "island". This proved to be a difficult task because the ground was heavily ploughed up already and interspersed with pits and ditches.

II. STRUCTURES

The base of the earliest phase of the temple structure marks the lowest stratum of building activities undertaken in this area. Besides the temple foundations, a mud-wall square situated to the east of the temple entrance was the other structure recovered in this level.



II.1 View from the temple island to the mound of Sonkh



II.2 Structural remains of Phase 1 and Phase 2 of the Apsidal Temple no. 2

Phase 1 of Apsidal Temple no. 2

The foundations of the outer wall of the temple extend from 6 III 9.50–17.75/Cb 10.88–10.15 up to 6 III 10.60–18.65/Cc 3.20–2.40 at the height of 14.70–14.96 m. The structure is laid out in east-west direction, only slightly deviating. It consists of the remaining parts of an apsidal cella, a row of pillar brick-foundations on all four sides, and an enclosure wall (Fig. II.2).

The *apsidal cella* has its entrance in the east and is built of mud- bricks of the average size of 48 × 23 × 7 cm. Upon the mud-bricks lay the remnants of one layer of baked bricks of the same size indicating that only the foundations were erected in mud-bricks. The outer diameter of the 60.0 cm high apse is 3.85 m, the lateral walls measure ca 5.60 m (south) and 2.50 m (north), giving the apsidal cella a length of ca 7.30 m. Into the apse is set a round, flat platform of the diameter 2.75 m which is built of mud but bordered on its open eastern side by one row of mud-bricks.

The cella is surrounded by twenty-three piles of baked bricks forming the *foundations of a row of pillars*. The bricks measure 42 × 29 × 7 cm in average, the distance of the pillar foundations (middle to middle) is ca 1.30 m, in the centre of the entrance side it widens to 1.40 m (on account of slightly narrower arrangement of the other eastern foundations). The distance from the outer side of the cella wall to the middle of the pillars is 1.20 m. Scattered along the southern front of the cella were found ten fragments of roof-tiles.

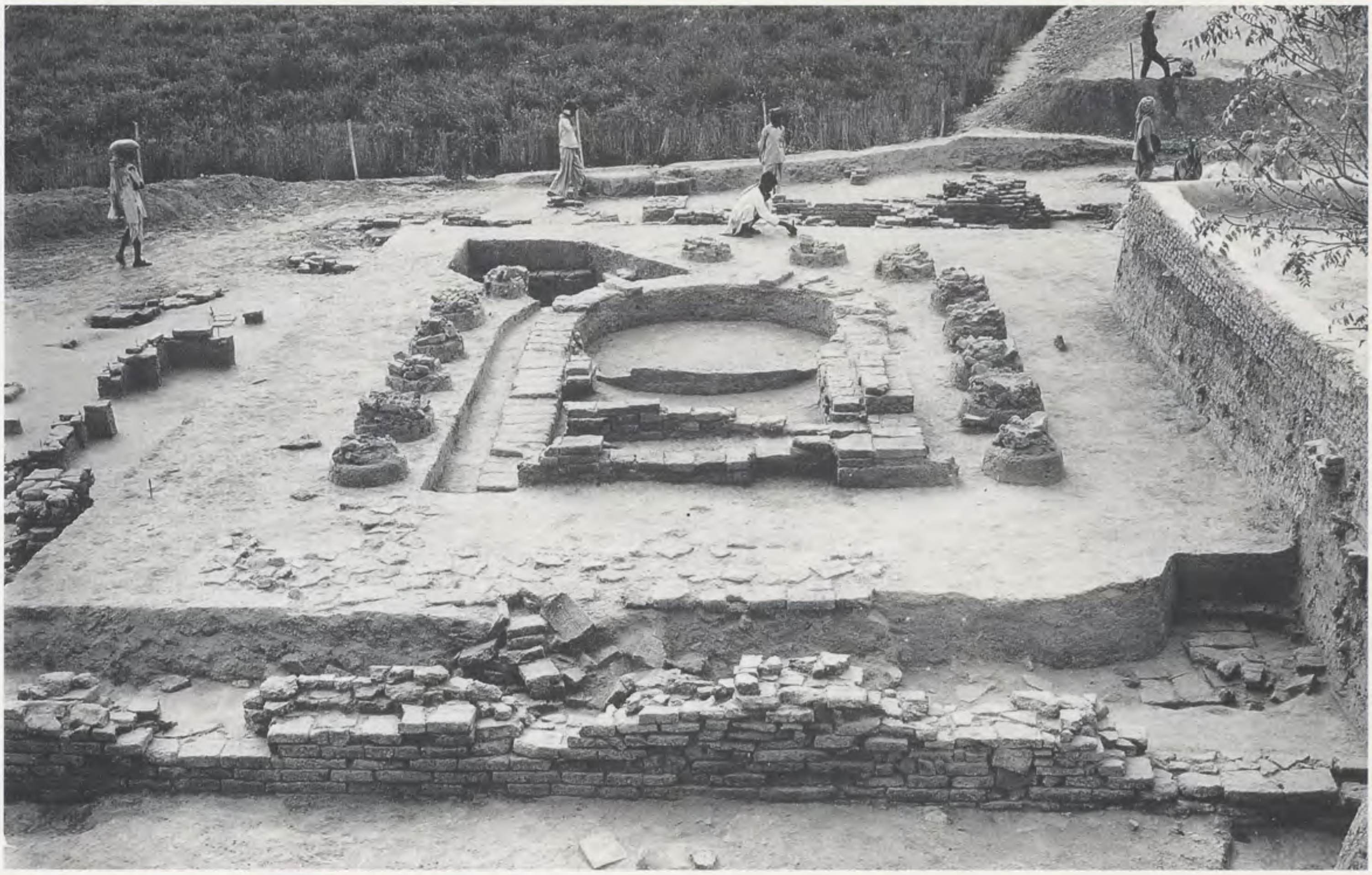
The cella and the pillar foundations are *enclosed by a wall* built of one row of baked bricks of the same size as the mud-bricks of the apsidal structure, i.e. of 48 × 23 × 7 cm. From outside to outside the enclosure wall measures max. 12.32 × 8.25 m. Founded between 14.70 and 14.96 m its height varies between one to seven layers of bricks. On the long sides the distance from the middle of the pillar foundations to the inside of the enclosure wall amounts to 0.45 m only, showing that in case of a higher outer wall passage would have been impossible. Therefore it is safe to assume that the surrounding wall was rather enclosing a platform. On the eastside the distance from the middle of the pillars to the outer edge of the platform measures between 1.70 and 1.90 m, thus indicating a larger, presumably roofed entrance area.

Just in front of the cella have been found three baked bricks of the size 48 × 23 × 7 cm which were placed together upright and forming a hollow triangle. This obviously intentional arrangement remains unclear in its meaning.

The other Structures of Phase 1

To the east of the temple entrance, in 6 III 13.40–19.20/Cc 12.10–18.80, have been exposed the remains of a squarish structure built of mud aligned in the same direction as the temple. The walls are founded at 14.54–14.71 m but most parts of them were in a dissolving state. Only the western stretch, reaching up to 15.26 m, permits one to measure the thickness of the walls with at least 0.65 m. Yet, this might be an overbuilt part of wall because on its western flank a small stripe of mud (which in its northern end seems to contain fragments of bricks in the size 42.0 × 31.0 × 8.0 cm) is situated in front of it.

In front of the middle of this western wall a spot of floor of baked bricks of the size 45.0 × 24.0 × 7.0 cm came to light, measuring 1.80 × 1.90 m.



II.3 Structural remains of Phase 2 of the Apsidal Temple no. 2

Traces of a Transitional Phase

The second temple structure, founded directly on and around the walls of the first, and therefore denoted as "second phase" although it has been built not less than two centuries later (CHRONOLOGY, p. 427), is surrounded by quite a number of contemporary remains of structures. But here and there, as will be pointed out in a later context, baked bricks of the size 40 × 25 × 6.5 cm occur in otherwise Kuṣāṇa structures. This is especially the case in 6 IV/Cb with its monastery-like cella construction along an open yard. Small fragments of other structures of the same time have been exposed in 6 IV 1.0/Cc 8.0–18.5 and 6 III 4.0–5.5/Cb 4.1–5.2 which do not betray any context.

In the south-east corner of the "island", i.e. in 6 III 1.5–6.0/Cc 15.0-Cd 3.0, an eight meter long fragment of a drainage built of 40 × 26 × 7 cm large baked bricks runs in SW-NE direction. Its surface lies at 14.50 m in average, the gully is lowered to 14.20 m. The fragment ends on both sides in the slope of the "island".

Although the heavily ploughed up ground did not preserve any larger connected structure it seems evident that in the time between Phase 1 and 2 of the temple, i.e. most probably in the Kṣatrapa period of Mathura, new structures have been added, thus indicating that the early shrine was in use for a long time.

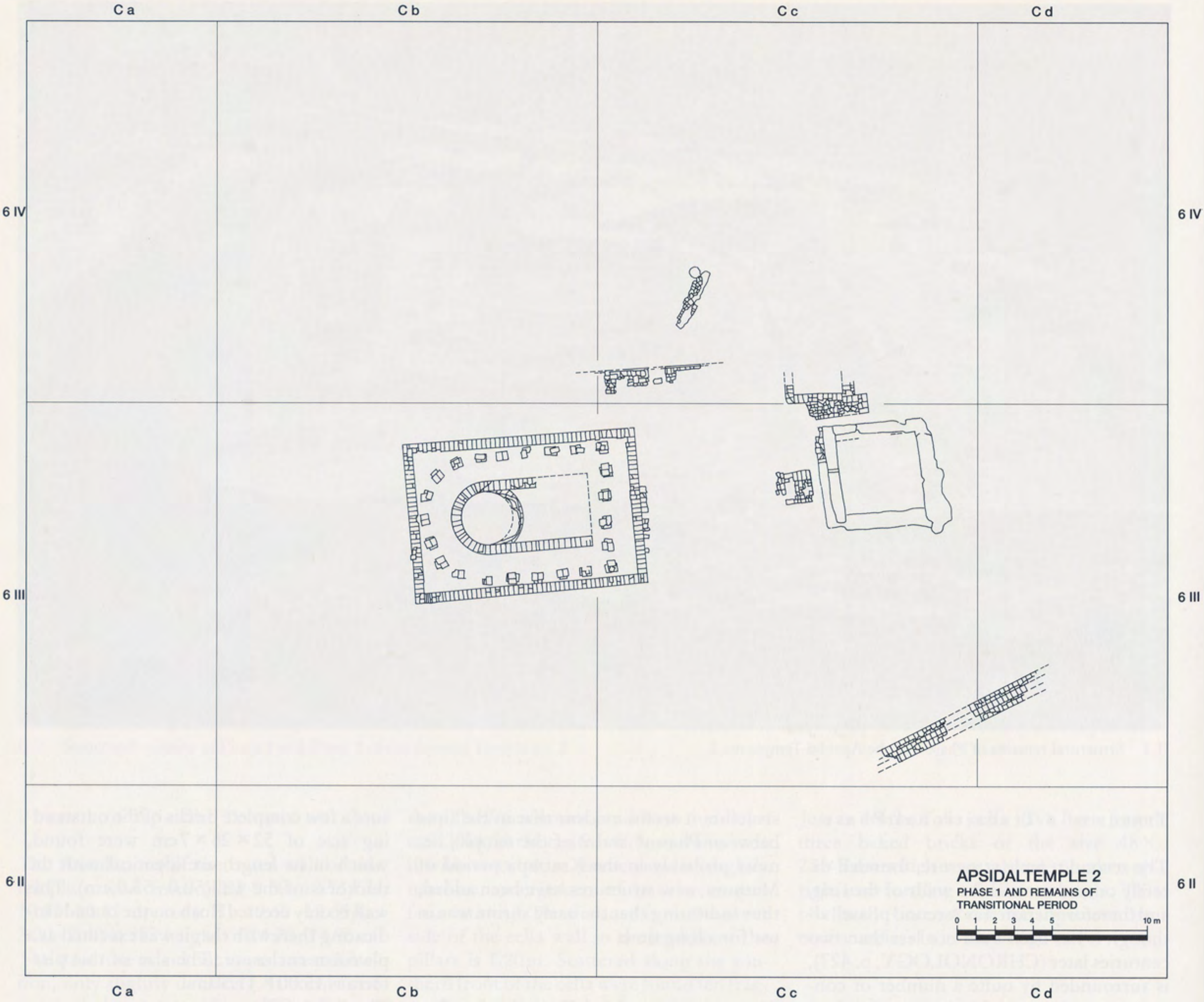
Phase 2 of Apsidal Temple no. 2

The structure erected on the island during this phase could be traced by 1) the remains of a new enclosure wall of the temple, 2) fragments of superstructures above older walls of the temple, 3) a new row of pillar foundations, 4) remains of structures around the temple and scattered over the whole area of the "island". In addition, a number of stone pieces from a *toraṇa* and a *vedikā* surrounding the temple complex came to light.

In the time of Phase 2 (Fig. II.3) the platform of the temple had been enlarged by setting up a new *enclosure wall* outside the older structure. Of it, only the eastern side is preserved in a longer section, built mainly of brickbats and bricks of the size 38 × 23 × 6 cm. On the north-east corner and in the north and west wall of this enclosure a few complete bricks of the outstanding size of 52 × 26 × 7 cm were found, which in its length are identical with the thickness of the wall(50.0–53.0 cm). This wall is only erected flush on the outside indicating therewith that it was executed as a platform enclosure. The size of this platform is 15.00 × 11.50 m.

The cella of Phase 2 is preserved alone in the remains of the 1.0 m thick *superstructure* built over parts of the northern lateral wall and the brickwork erected on the entrance side. The bricks used were mainly 38 × 23 × 6 cm in size interspersed with such of 42 × 30 × 6.5 cm hinting at a transitional phase as mentioned above. In the other parts of the cella not a single brick of the superstructure has been found, so that the blank mud-brick apse and remaining lateral walls of Phase 1 were all that was left. One should, however, always be aware that these structures were lying directly below the surface and were, therefore, in its upper part highly endangered by detection through people living on the place.

With the exception of the entrance side the temple was surrounded by another row of *pillar foundations* formed of brickbats of ca 38 × 23 × 6 cm large bricks. In the bases of



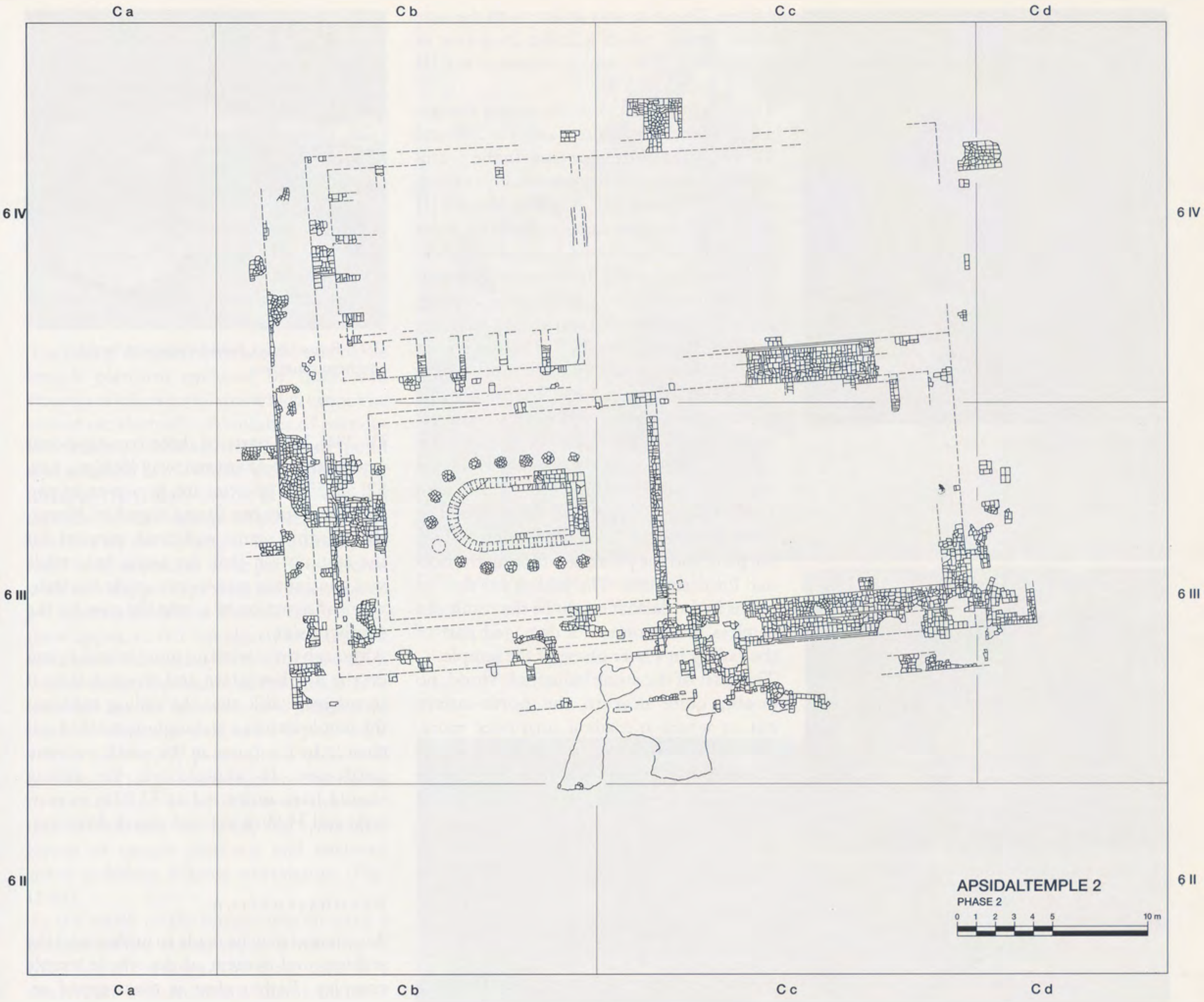
at least four of the previously fifteen pillars 18 cm deep holes were found for the insertion of the pillar shafts. The distance from the centre of each pillar to the exterior edge of the apsidal wall is about 0.85 m, the distance between the single pillars fluctuating between 1.20 and 1.40 m.

As distinguished from the layout of Phase 1 the pillars stand now considerably closer to the cella so that in view of the simultaneous enlargement of the platform the temple cella could best be circumambulated on the outer side of the pillars.

The excavation of the remaining area around the temple revealed a number of *fragmentary structures* in all directions. East of the eastern wall of the temple enclosure extends a free space of 14.5 × 11.5 m, i.e. of nearly the size as the platform. To the north and south this space is bordered by 2.00–2.30 m thick walls (Fig. II.4). The closing eastern structure seems, so far the remnants permit one to conclude, to have measured only 1.25 m in thickness. The bricks used are of so different sizes as 39 × 24 × 5.5 cm, 38 × 23 × 5 cm and 32 × 24 × 6 cm. The southern wall continues directly along the temple platform and joins the structures on the western side of the temple where it turns into a staircase construction (see cross-bar with oblique ends, Sculpt. no. 46). The parallel brick-path in front, as far as not part of this stairway, might have been connected with the southern line of foundations of the stone railing to be discussed below.

Remains of such staircases could be traced also in the north at 6 IV 13.35–16.15/Cc 1.7–4.5 (Fig. II.5) and in the south at 6 III 4.8–7.2/Cc 5.5–8.1 (Fig. II.6), to the side of which yet another cross-bar of a staircase balustrade was found (Sculpt., no. 47). The few scattered fragments of structures on the eastern flank (6 III/Cd) do not answer the question whether there was a staircase on this side too, or not. To the east of the southern stairway a conspicuous round brick foundation of 0.85 m diameter marks the position of a *jayastambha*, presumably (Fig. II.7).

North of the Apsidal Temple were exposed small fragments of a long, 1.15 m thick wall running parallel with the northern temple enclosure in a distance of 0.60 m. This wall



was no doubt turning rectangularly towards NNE in 6 III 20.0/Cb 5.7 and joined the fragments appearing in 6 IV 6.0–9.6/Cb 5.30–6.45 before it turned EEN once more in 6 IV 12.8/Cb 4.8 forming now a parallel northern wall, thus completing an at least three-sided enclosure along a square yard of 14.0 × 14.0 m. On the inner side thinner walls, generally 40 cm thick, are protruding rectangularly. They are built in regular distances forming small cellas of the size of ca 1.75 × 2.00 m (Fig. II.8). In the foundations the brickwork contained quite a number of bricks of the size 40.0 × 25.0 × 6.5 cm indicating a possible intermediate phase as discussed above.

At 6 IV 13.7/Cb 18.95, i.e. on the outside of the north-eastern corner of the cella yard and near the northern stairway, a brick pedestal with a stone plinth was unearthed, presumably of a Nāga image (Stone Sculpt., no. 20).

The last structural fragment to be mentioned is a short part of wall in 6 IV 12.1–13.5/Cc 19.0-Cd 0.8, aligned in east-west direction and built of bricks of the size 38 × 23 × 5 cm. Upon and to the sides of this wall were found a number of *stambhas* and *sūcīs* of the stone railing to be discussed below (Fig. II.9). Just 0.50 m north of it, still in situ, stood the lower part of an octagonal stone pillar measuring 49.0 cm in height and 14.0 cm in diameter (Stone Sculpt., no. 21).

The Stone Railing and the Gate

South of the Apsidal Temple, at a distance of ca 5.50–9.00 m from the platform, ten cross-bars (plus numerous small fragments) and one pillar of a stone railing came to light in 6 III 0.0–6.0/Cc 0.5–3.3, accompanied by ten pieces of sculptures from a gate *(toraṇa)*. The find-situation of these stones indicates that the railing in its entirety fell towards south when collapsing. The basis line had therefore to be expected slightly north. Unfortunately, not much of the foundations of the railing has been found. Two piles of its brick base, located in 6 III 3.8–3.9/Cb 16.7–19.0, betray an alignment parallel with the southern temple enclosure wall, in a distance of

II.4 Southern wall in 6 III/Cc

II.5 Remains of the northern staircase

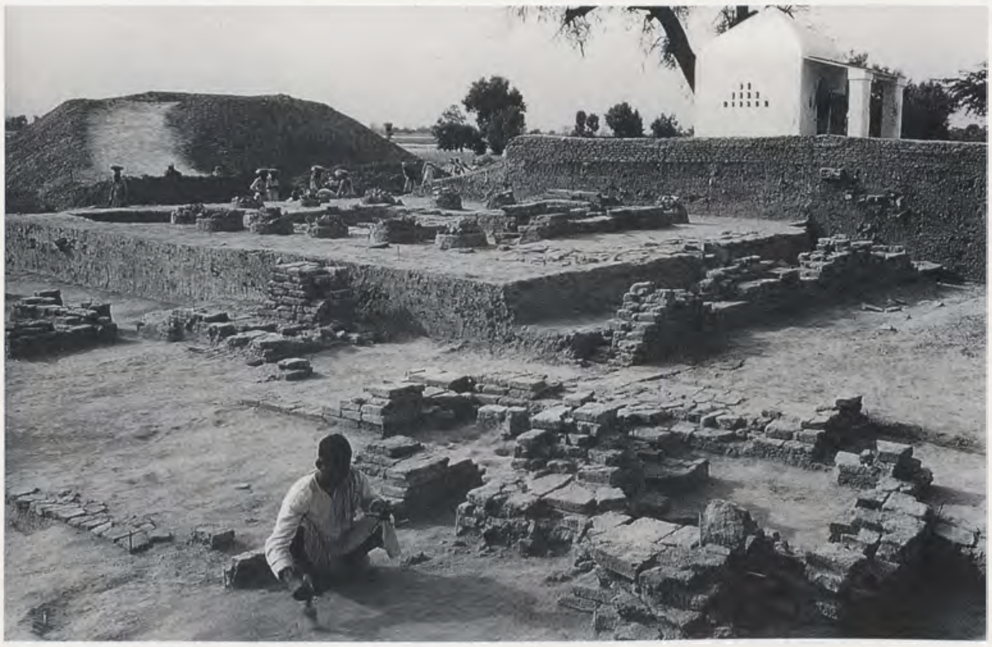
4.80 m. This is exactly in line with the base of the gate of which a 2.50 m long row of bricks (38 × 23 × 5 cm) is preserved in 6 III 4.3–4.4/Cc 2.8–5.3.

There is no doubt that the railing continued in a straight line towards the SW and SE corners of the temple area. In the southeast the railing was most probably turning rectangularly towards NNW in about 6 III 6.3/Cd 4.0, because quite near to this point one cross-bar was found lying upon brickbats (Sculpt., no. 45). In its course this eastern line was flanked again by a copingstone (Sculpt., no. 50) and a cross-bar fragment (So IV 204) in 6 IV/Cd before it ends near the find-spot of another three railing pillars and five cross-bars (Sculpt., nos. 30; 48; 49) lying upon, and next to, the reported fragment of wall in about 6 IV 12.1/Cc-Cd. To one's amazement, all the stone pieces of the railing found here are of a much simpler type than those found in other parts of the "island": The cross-bars are plain and the pillars are lacking the normal lotus rosettes. The reason for this remains in the dark; it might be the result of a careless renovation of a damaged part of the railing in a later phase of the temple.

This part of the stone balustrade stood, no doubt, quite near to the north-eastern corner where it made a turn once more, now from the east towards west. Unfortunately, no remnants of this turn could be traced. But four stone pieces were found lying quite near to the expected course of a northern railing: a cross-bar fragment with lotus rosettes in 6 IV 14.75/Cc 12.15 (So IV 284), and parts of three coping-stones near to the northern stairway (Sculpt., nos. 52; 53; 55). The latter are, however, of two different types not fitting together. Nevertheless, this seems sufficient support for the assumption that the stone balustrade was continuing east-west outside the stairway construction as it was the case on the southern side.

II.7 Round brick foundation close to the southern staircase

Although there were no more stones found on the north-western and western sides it seems inevitable that the railing enclosed the whole area in a rectangle as marked out already by its course in the south, east and north-east. In completion, the railing should have measured ca 43.00 m in east-west and 34.00 m in south-north direction.



II.6 Remains of the southern staircase

Reconstruction

An attempt may be made to understand the architectural context of the whole temple complex. Rather clear is the stepped arrangement of the structures up to the temple platform. Starting from the level of the surrounding stone railing the stairways led up to the broad first enclosure wall, ca 0.75 m above the ground, to be considered as a foot path round about at least the temple and its opposite free space in the east. From this path more stairways were leading to the once 0.75 m higher level of the temple platform.

Thus a clear impression arises of a well arranged construction in Phase 2 of the sanctuary: The Apsidal Temple no. 2 as the main building, standing on the platform, towering over the surrounding other structures. The temple itself consisted of an apsidal cella closed on three sides and roofed with a vault which was provided with a lean-to roof constructed of wood, running around the temple and covering the space between the cella and the surrounding row of pillars. The vault was carrying pinnacles which were, most probably, of the green-glazed variety (Pott. Obj., no. 1).

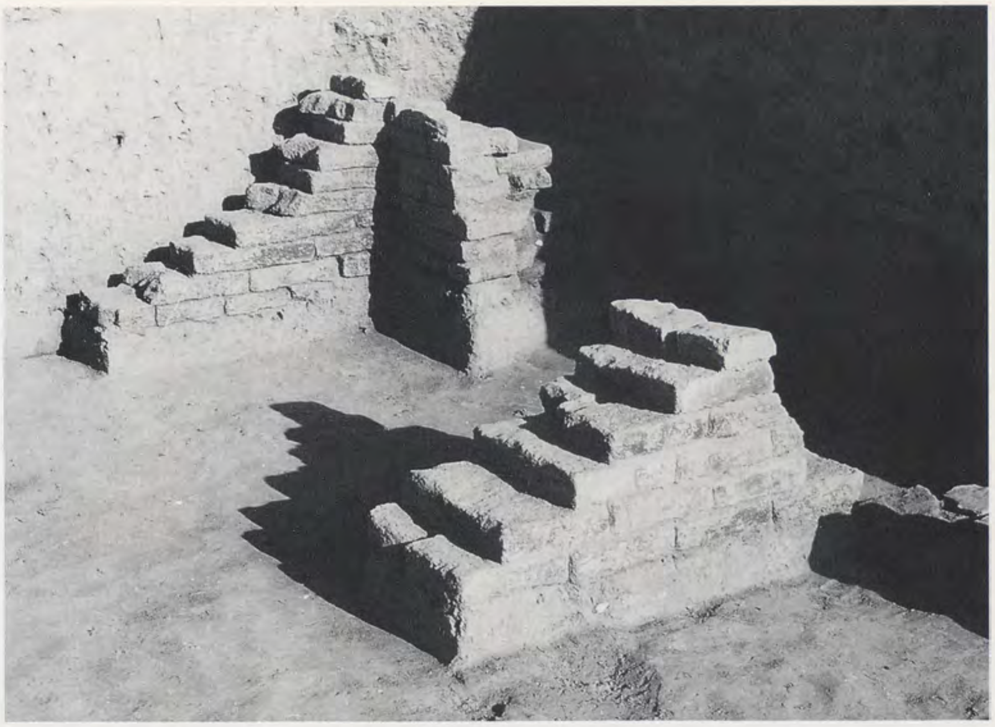
The hard, round mud-base forming a complete circle within the apse would most probably have served as base for the main image. The entrance was furnished with an arch-shaped, both-sides carved stone tympanum placed above the doorway leading into the cella (Stone Sculpt., no. 23). Most probably this tympanum was resting on likewise carved door-jambs framing the entrance.

The nearly symmetric area to the east of the temple platform enclosed by thick wall structures offers problems which cannot be solved satisfactorily. A number of particulars seems to indicate that a temple pond was situated here. There were found, for instance, strikingly sandy layers with an unusual concentration of pottery on the westside of the rectangle. In addition, the thick wall structures were partly plastered with mortar, perhaps with the intention to get a better isolation. On the other hand, there appears a flat but clearly set plinth of brickwork measuring 0.65 × 0.75 × 0.25 m with a sharp depression in the centre as if intended for the insertion of a pillar. And from the northern wall, in 6 IV 19.5–6 IV 1.2/Cc 15.5–15.9, protrudes a thin wall founded too high for a structure belonging to the assumed basin. Whatever the function of this area has been, the symmetric layout of temple platform and enclosed space indicates a close correlation (Fig. II.10).

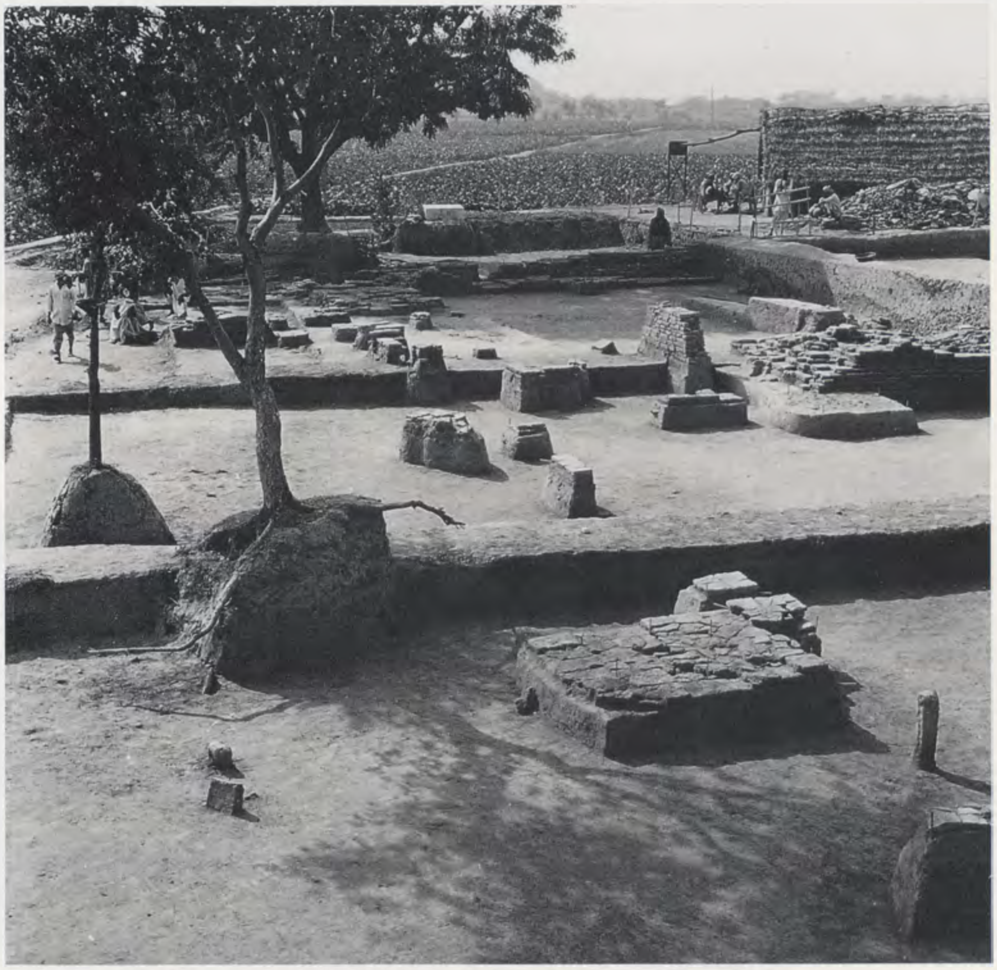
To the north of the temple was situated a monastery-like construction consisting of rows of cells arranged on three sides of a courtyard. Unfortunately, this is the spot where the modern temple is placed so that the excavation had to stop here. Nevertheless, the layout as documented in the plan is sufficiently clear.

The north-eastern quadrant of the area, the most disturbed part of the "island", did not betray any special function. Except for the part of wall in the north-eastern corner with the pillar in situ next to it, and the northern entrance construction no other structural remains were found here.

A look at the plan informs us that the "island" in the fields comprises, fortunately, the whole ancient temple complex, how scanty the remains may be. It is likewise clear that the sacred area was rectangular in shape and was enclosed by a stone railing measuring in all ca 43.00 × 34.00 m. Of this railing, the most remarkable pieces have been found on the southern side where, besides cross-bars and a pillar fragment, parts



II.8 Remains of cella structures in 6 IV/Cb

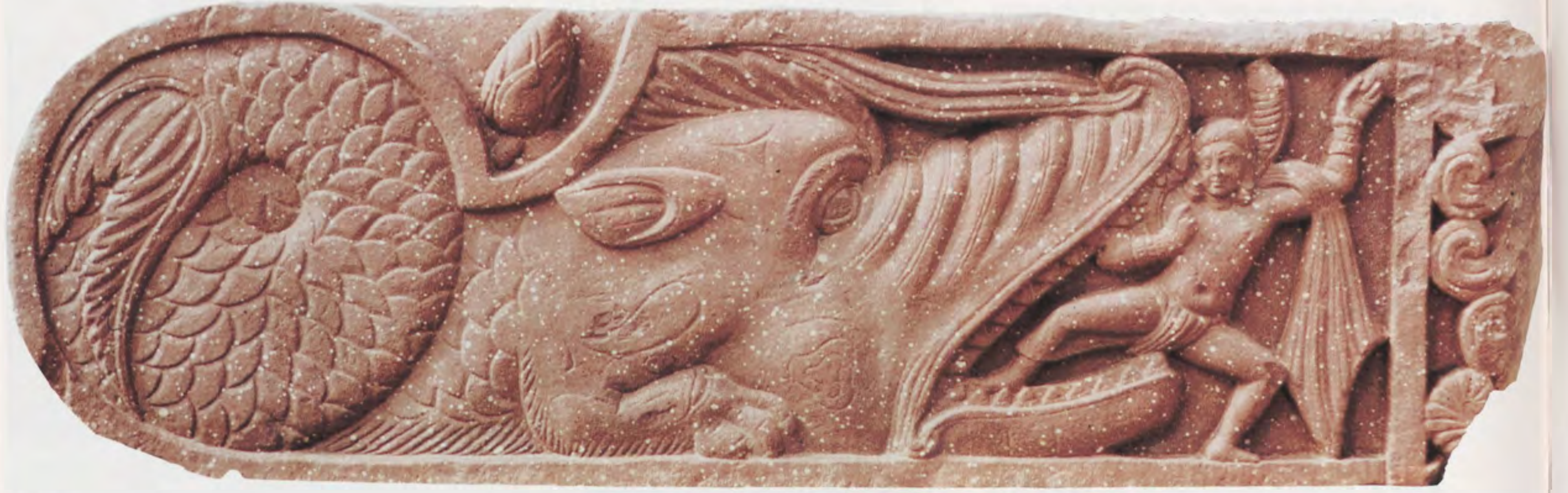


II.9 Remains of eastern enclosure wall (NS) with base of octagonal pillar (right)

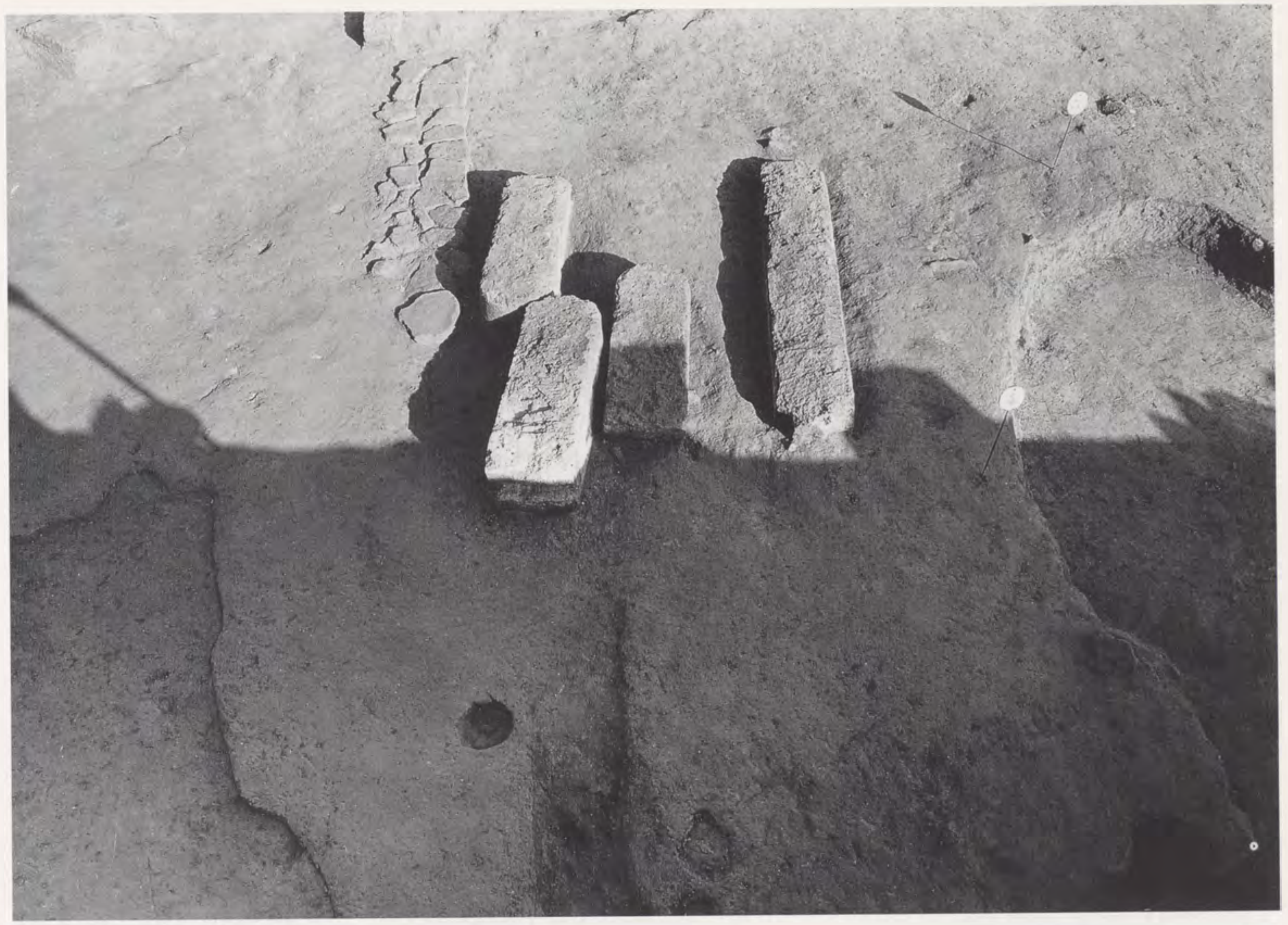
of a *toraṇa*, carved on both sides, came to light (Figs. 11, 12). They were all corroded on the upper side as they lay very close to the surface of the rather salty ground. Fortunately, the side facing downwards survived in a remarkably good condition. The position directly under the surface is, in addition to that, also responsible for the total loss of the majority of the architraves and all of the *toraṇa* pillars which must have been exposed times ago and most probably taken in use for other purposes. A fragment of one end-piece, i.e. the eastern one of the bottom architrave, also unearthed prior to the excavation, obviously found its way to the art market; it has been published in Czuma/Morris, 1985:no. 10,p.62. An impression in the ground exactly fitting the outline of this published piece has been located, cleaned and photographed by us.

Erected in a distance of 4.80 m from the southern enclosure wall of the temple platform, the gate stood somewhat left of the stairway construction. It was composed of two pillars supporting a superstructure of three architraves with voluted ends (Fig. 13). Separating the architraves were four cubic blocks set in pairs vertically above the corresponding floral squares in the lintels. Judging by the indentations of different shapes on the top of the lower middle lintel (the only one preserved), the open spaces between the architraves were occupied by screens (Sculpt., nos. 6, 7) and uprights in the middle as well as by lions (Sculpt., nos. 8, 8a) upon the voluted end pieces. Whether there were any decorative figures crowning the top architrave remains in the dark. Between pillars and voluted ends of the lower architrave bracket figures were added in the shape of beautiful Śālabhañjikās.

From bottom to top, i.e. the upper edge of the top architrave, the gate had a height of ca 3.45 m. The architraves were of different length, decreasing from the lower to the upper one, measuring ca 2.60, 2.50, and 2.40 m respectively. The height of the architraves, the separating cubic blocks and with them the open space between the lintels ranges between 21.0 and 22.0 cm. The distance from the lowest point of the bracket figure to the bottom of the lower architrave amounts to 0.60 m.



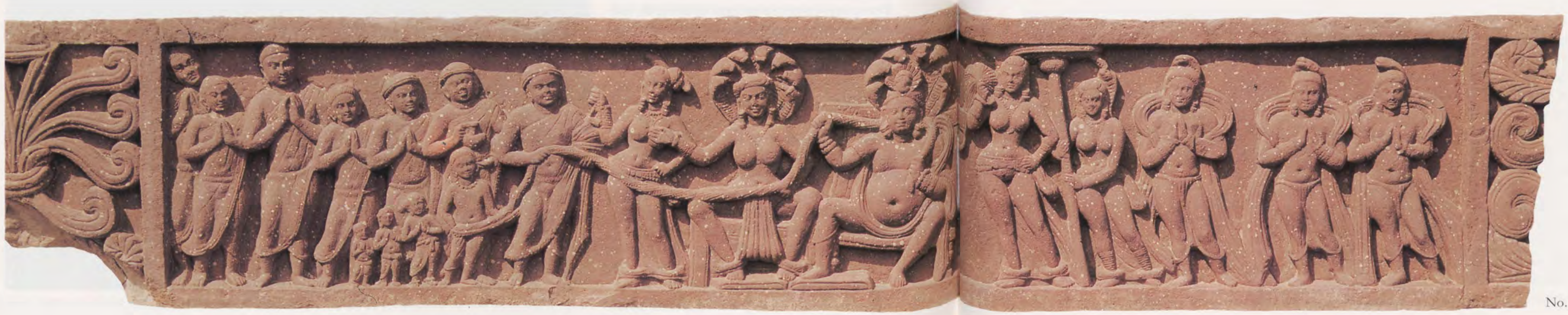
No. 3



II.11 Four sculptures of the gate in situ

It is difficult to determine whether the railing was connected directly with the pillars of the gate or set apart by a joining link. In any case, there was no space left for a deeper gateway construction.

The three components of the railing, i.e. pillar (*stambha*), cross-bar (*sūcī*) and coping-stone (*uṣṇīṣa*) were, as a rule, carved on both sides. The pillars were, as the one fragment of a decorated specimen (Sculpt., no. 27) betrays, adorned with two complete and two half lotus rosettes on the one, and two relief medallions together with



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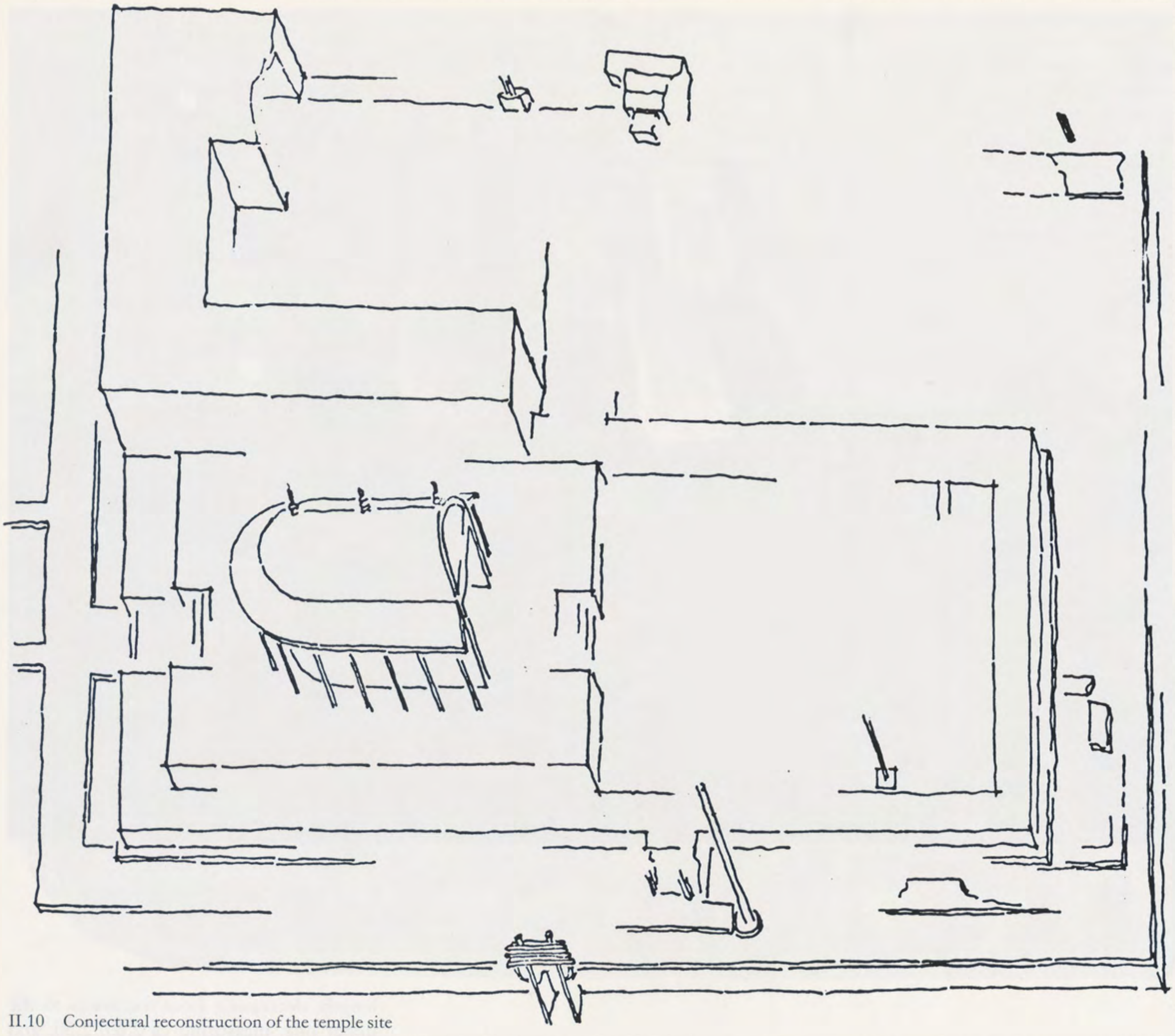
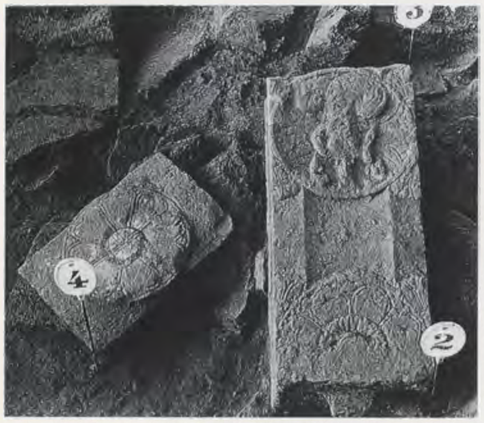
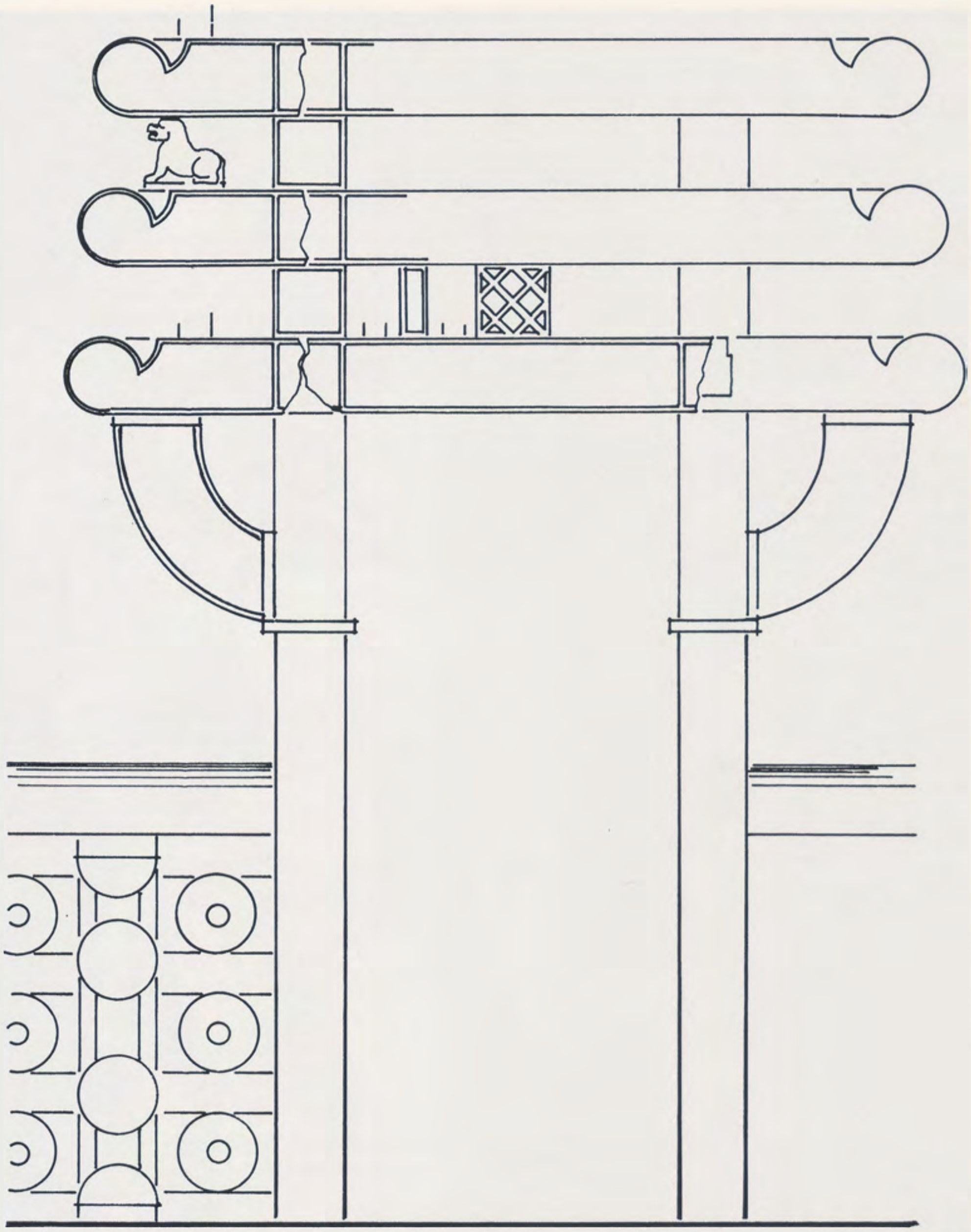


II.10 Conjectural reconstruction of the temple site



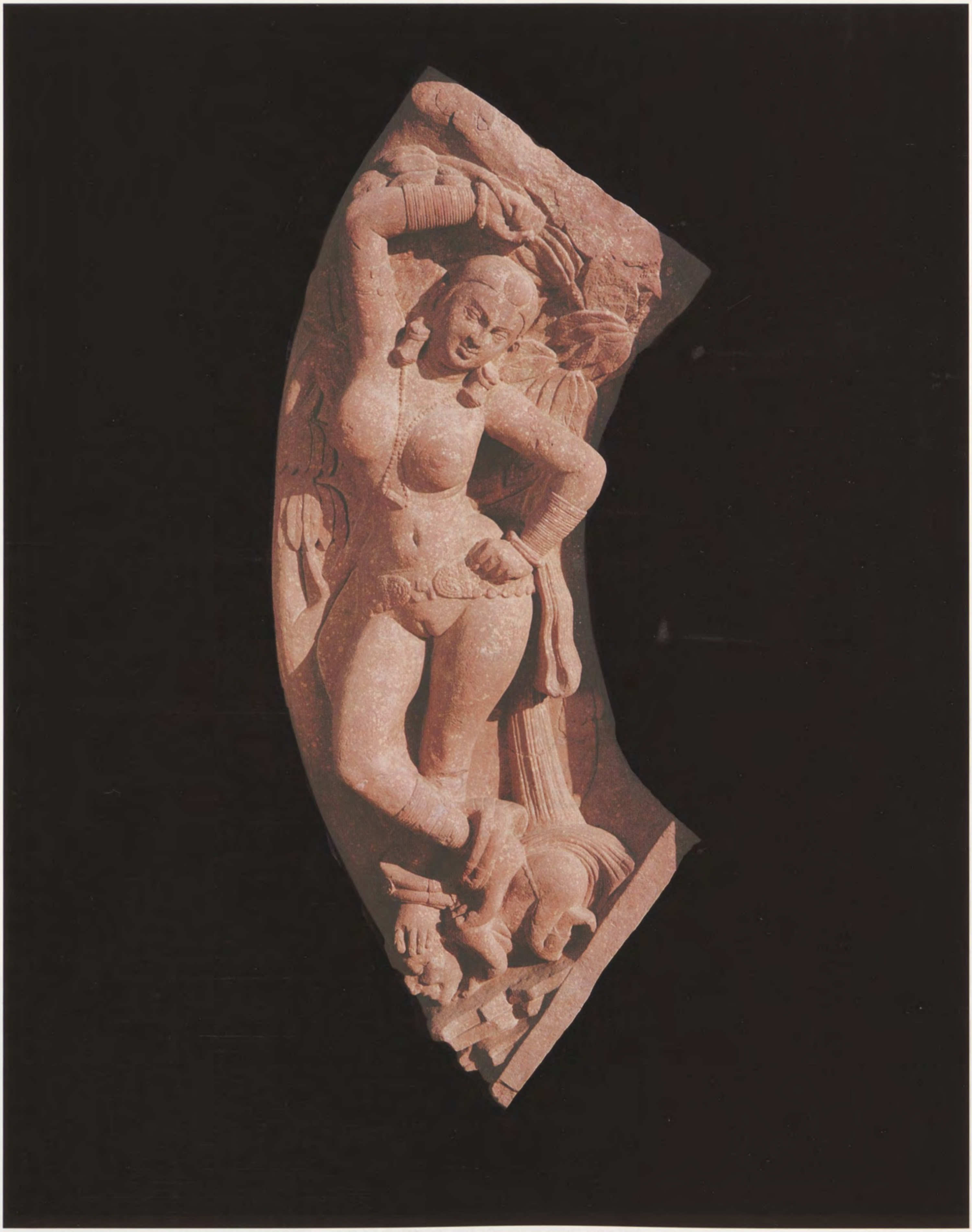
II.12 Fragments of the railing in situ



II.13 Reconstruction of the southern gate

two half lotus rosettes on the other face. The cross-bars show lotus rosettes on either side. The main type of coping-stone found is decorated with a bell and creeper design (Sculpt., nos. 50–52) whereas a second type, recovered in the north, shows vertically arranged lotus petals and sepals (Sculpt., nos. 53–55). An exception are the pillars and cross-bars found in the north-eastern corner of the area being devoid of a medallion and, in the case of the cross-bars, of any decoration at all.

The pillars show three mortises on their left and right sides for the insertion of the cross-bars which are 30.0 cm long in average so that the distance from pillar to pillar amounted to ca 26.0 cm. Including the coping-stone (h. ca 22.0 cm) the railing was ca 1.35 m high. One pillar (Sculpt., no. 28) does not fit the measurements of the outer railing. It was perhaps part of the stairway balustrade to which the two cross-bars (Sculpt., nos. 46,47) with oblique ends certainly belong. Unfortunately, these are the only remnants of inner railings. Considering that, in addition, the brick foundations of the stairway construction are likewise hopelessly disturbed, a clear reconstruction of this part of the complex is rather impossible.



No. 5

III. THE FUNCTION OF THE TEMPLE

The Apsidal Temple no. 2 at Sonkh experienced two main periods of religious use connected with Phase 1 and 2 of the shrine. In the immediate surroundings of the structures of Phase 1 not a single object could be found which would help us to ascertain to which cult this older sanctuary was dedicated.

Quite different is the situation with regard to Phase 2 of the temple. Here we notice a more than conspicuous accumulation of finds with Nāga character. There are to be mentioned e.g. the architectural pieces of the southern gate with the bottom lintel depicting a Nāga court scene, the voluted end pieces showing a Makara with a Nāga as his playmate, and the cubic block with two intertwined three-headed cobras (Sculpt., nos. 2, 3, 4, 6). Near to the gate was found the pillar fragment with a Nāgarāja under a seven-headed cobra-hood in the medallion (no. 27). Most probably, the medallion moulds depicting a Nāgarāja recovered in the main excavation area are copied from other pillars of this railing (Part I: Terr.Hum. Fig., nos. 142, 143, 144). Another pillar, unearthed on the western side, shows three cobra heads in its bottom rosette (no. 28). To the north-east, in 6 IV/Cc, came to light the relief fragment of a "reading" Nāga, the upper part of a Nāginī with a hood of three cobras, and another small hood fragment (nos. 16, 17, 18), made like all the others of the mottled red Kerauli sandstone.

In the north, west of the stairway, the stump of a Nāga image stood still in situ (no. 20). Not less important are the three surface finds of larger Nāga sculptures found previous to the excavation in the surrounding fields (nos. 19, 24, 25).

The Nāga context is clearly recognizable also in the terracotta material found on the "island". The Nāga hood (Terr.Moulds and Figs., no. 7), to which the hollow face (no. 6) and the hand holding a flask (no. 8) fit in size, seems to prove that rather large terracotta Nāga figures must have existed in the temple area likewise. Five fragments of small terracotta snakes speak, in addition, of the frequency and popularity of Nāga figures on this very place (nos. 14–18). A non-figurative piece from among the relevant finds is an inscribed seal with the remains of three rectangular labels each having two lines of Kuṣāṇa Brāhmī script (Misc.Terr.Obj., no. 1) mentioning an *ahikośika*, the snake connotation of whom is obvious.

The accumulative representation of Nāgas as documented in these finds has to be complemented by two other most important sculptures. One, from a private house near the temple, is a large tympanum fragment (Sculpt., no. 23) with reliefs on both sides which show a man climbing a rock. He is entwined by a snake. But he is not fighting the snake which is rather a part of him: he, in fact, is a Nāga. The same is the case with the second sculpture, namely, the male statue that has been found times ago and around which the modern temple has been erected (Sculpt., no. 22). The stone is carved on all four sides. On the obverse and reverse the figure has the right hand raised and is hooded by a snake canopy with seven cobra heads. On both the narrow side-portions we find a seven-limbed and seven-headed snake decorated with three lotus-stalks. The figure no doubt represents a Nāgarāja.

By this accumulation of Nāga figures it has become quite evident that the upper structure of the Apsidal Temple no. 2 at Sonkh was dedicated to the Nāga cult. It is therefore not far-fetched to assume that the four-sided large Nāga sculpture had originally been standing in the apse of the temple to be worshipped as the main image. If so, the Nāga tympanum fragment was most probably part of the doorway decoration of this temple.

It might be difficult to comprehend how Nāgas could be worshipped in such sophisticated a temple and surroundings as the Sonkh complex once had represented. To perform a Nāga ceremony as it is done e.g. annually on the occasion of the Nāga pañcamī festival in the rainy season and of so many other Hindu festivals it did not need a temple of its own. The answer is simple: not theriomorphic snakes were the main object of worship here but an imaginary snake-god, a personified Nāgarāja, here in all probability, Vāsuki, who was a member of the Hindu pantheon. To understand the development of the Nāga cult up to this point it might be useful to sum up its essential stages starting in the Vedic times.

Some Remarks on the Development of a Nāga Cult

In the Vedic texts the word mostly used for snake is *ahi* (tying, strangling). The term *ahi*, as also the compounds formed of it, express the fear of this animal, but also the wonder at its uncommon form and the admiration of its beauty, leaving no doubt that at the beginning of the snake-worship there stood the direct adoration of this animal in its different species.

The Maitrāyaṇī saṃhitā for instance tells us of the homage to the snakes which move along the earth, which are in the sky, which lie in holes and which have made their abodes in the water. Already in the early groups of texts snakes are called by special names, and thus personified. The personification leads to the deification, to the worship of snakes as semi-divine beings, above all, as the deities of the waters, springs and rivers.

While the earlier texts contain respectful invocations of snakes, sacrificial rites are described in the later works of the Sūtra period (ca 600–400 BC), which enclose prescriptions as to when and how the offerings to the snakes should be made. Some of these comply with the rites still practised today at the Nāga pañcamī ceremonies. No wonder that in the succeeding period of the Indian Epics, in the Mahābhārata and the Rāmāyaṇa, as well as in the Purāṇas, there appeared genealogical stories about the divine origin of the Nāgas and narrations of the deeds of famous Nāgas mentioned by name, who appear to be not only Nāgarājas but Nāgadevas as well.

Although the Nāgas live in different places and can assume different shapes, their character as creatures of the waters is emphasized again. While the Vedic texts still mention different abodes for obviously different families of snakes, the Nāgas in the Epics are allocated to a region of their own. This is placed under the earth, in the underworld *pātāla*, named *nāgaloka* as well. It is the netherworld, the world of the fathomless waters. So there exists now the notion of a division of the world into a divine world (*devaloka*), a human world (*mānuṣaloka*), and the underworld (*pātāla* or *nāgaloka*) as the abode of snakes.

In the Buddhistic scriptures the Nāgas appear in a group of eight classes of demigods, as for instance Devas, Yakṣas, Nāgas, Gandharvas, etc.. Grünwedel (1901:p.43) summarizes the Buddhistic notion of the Nāgas in the remark that they "form a separate snake world, the inhabitants of which have the power of assuming human forms. They are fabled to reside under the Trikuta rocks supporting Mount Meru, and also in the waters of springs, lakes, rivers etc., watching over great treasures, causing rain and certain maladies, and becoming dangerous when in anger".

The popularity of the Nāgas equals that of another group of minor deities, i.e. the Yakṣas, famous as the guardian deities. Both the groups, Nāgas and Yakṣas, are worshipped in the early historical period under rather similar conditions, and both are exposed to the danger of being propagated by the main religious movements as adherents to their doctrines or, in special cases, of becoming integrated in their respective pantheon.

One gets the impression that with the beginning of the Epic Period, with the creation of a Nāgaloka, a schism in the conception of the Nāgas has taken place. The Nāgarājas called by their names in the Epics and the Nāgarājas of local genesis cannot be identified with common snakes living on the earth, with the dangerous, poisonous reptiles under the sun, because they, the Nāgarājas, are a product of imagination, and as such, acquire a kind of independence which has nothing to do with the reality. Thus in this edifice of thought there is also place for the ideas of courtiers of the Nāga kings, of a Nāga queen, of beautiful Nāga damsels, all of them living in a fantastic world of riches and splendour. Their worship ends up in a genuine cult of god demanding a place of worship of its own.

Evidence of the Existence of Ancient Nāga Shrines and Temples

For a long time we had to ask if there is any hope at all of proving the existence of a more sophisticated Nāga cult in special places of worship, perhaps even in Nāga shrines or the like. Ananda K. Coomaraswamy (1928:part I, pp. 17–24) tried to establish a similar cult with regard to Yakṣas. He expressed the opinion that "the existence of images in every case implies the existence of temples and cult". From literary evidence he drew the conclusion that "the essential element of yakṣa holystead is a stone table or altar placed beneath the tree sacred to the Yakṣa", but that "in many cases yakṣa shrines, however designated, were structural buildings … with doors, and arches and [with] images and altars within the buildings". He felt himself not in a position to provide material proof, because there are, even up to now, no relevant remains of temples or shrines known to us.

Since the situation of the Nāgas is, in many respects, similar to that of the Yakṣas, it should be asked what evidence we have got, prior to Sonkh, to show the existence of places or buildings for the Nāga cult. The starting point is here just the same as with the Yakṣas: There are images representing Nāgas in different shapes and contexts. If Coomaraswamy is right, here again the very existence of images implies the existence of temples and a cult. The centre of the production of Nāga figures was no doubt Mathura, the most important art school in ancient India. Here quite a number of Nāga statues had been created during the first centuries AD, the oldest one belonging even to the 1st century BC (N. P. Joshi 1966: pl. 1). It is of the type of the famous old Yakṣa images of that school, standing in a very upright position, the lower body clad in a dhotī, a presumably seven-headed cobra-hood rising from the back. This life-size Nāga undoubtedly must have been the object of worship itself, like most of the other Nāga cult-images from Mathura.

The question arises where such an image was placed – whether it was standing below a tree, in open ground or perhaps in a building erected as a temple. Do we have means to answer this question? Fortunately we have a number of inscriptions containing scraps of valuable informations on the matter concerned.

Bühler (Ind. Antiquary, XXV, p. 141 f.) reports a Kharoṣṭhī inscription, found in the Gandhara region, which records that a tank was caused to be made for the worship of all the Nāgas. The date of the inscription has been tentatively attributed to the first century BC.

Similar information can be drawn from an interesting relief in the Govt. Museum Mathura, hailing from Ral Bhadar, showing a Nāga with a seven-headed canopy accompanied by two Nāginīs, marked as such by a three-headed hood behind their shoulders. Below this scene, a group of five male and five female worshippers together with two children, all of completely human shape, are depicted (M. M. 210). The inscription at the base of this relief tells us that "*In the year 8 of mahārāja rājatirāja ṣāhi Kanikka* [Kaniṣka] … *a tank and a garden* [were caused to be made] *for the holy Nāga Bhūmo as the donation of* [so and so]" (Lüders 1961: § 102). Besides the inscription which dates the stone into the time of Kaniṣka II, the relief is of special interest in so far as it displays a scene of worship of a Nāgarāja by human beings, representing perhaps the donor and his family.

The information gathered from the two records just mentioned can fittingly be completed by a third inscription, incised on the back of the largest Nāga image of all (M.M.C 13) which has been found at Chargaon in Mathura District. This more than life-size figure (ht. 7 ft. 8 in.) contains on its back six lines of Brāhmī script, making it known that "*in the fortieth year of mahārāja rājatirāja Huviṣka*" two male worshippers by the name of Senahasti and Bhoṇḍaka "*set up both* [this] *Nāga at his own tank*". The record closes with the passage "*May the lord Nāga be pleased*" (Lüders 1961: § 137). It is to be dated to the second century AD. From these three inscriptions we come to know that it was usual to donate *puṣkariṇīs*, i.e. lotus tanks, and gardens for the Nāgas and that a Nāga image was set up at such a tank. There is nothing said of a building for the image or for cult purposes, so it may be concluded that in such cases a place of worship with tank, garden and image was thought sufficient.

The affair becomes still more interesting if we take into account two more inscriptions said to come from the Jamalpur mound in Mathura City. Although the contents of the records differ widely, they have to be read one beside the other. First, an inscription on a figureless stone slab, now in the State Museum Lucknow (E 5), should be introduced. It carries eight lines of script mentioning a number of names of donors from Mathura, who are said to have set up a stone slab at the *sthāna* of the holy lord of Nāgas, Dadhikarṇṇa by name (Lüders 1961: § 27). By the "stone slab" the inscription might mean a Nāga image again, but there are two other points that are of greater interest here: firstly we get to know the name of a local Nāgarāja, and secondly it is said that the stone slab was set up at the *sthāna* of this Dadhikarṇṇa. What is *sthāna* in this context? In general, the word can mean any place, spot, locality, abode, dwelling or house. With other words, one cannot prove from the inscription alone, whether *sthāna* stands for an open place or for a building. But here the second inscription from the Jamalpur mound comes in: it contains just one single line, written on a pillar base, now in the Indian Museum, Calcutta (M 2). It records that the pillar is the gift of Devila, the *dadhikarṇṇadevakulika* (Lüders 1961: § 34). Now, *devakula* means without any doubt "deity-house", that is naturally "temple". And a *devakulika* is nothing but the attendant, the priest at the temple, here the temple of the Nāgarāja Dadhikarṇṇa in Mathura.

There is reason to believe that two regions in Northern India were, in the early historical period, more prominent areas of Nāga worship than others, namely the District of Mathura as documented just now, and the heart of Bihar State around Rajagriha. While Mathura provided us with a large number of Nāga images and the expressive inscriptional records, the Bihar centre was, up to now, the only place where at least fragments of structural remains of a Nāga temple could be unearthed. Excavations in the environs of the famous circular brick structure, popularly known as the Maniyar Math, revealed that this structure rested upon at least two earlier strata of buildings, the oldest of which belongs, according to its bricks of the size 42 × 30 × 6.5 cm, to the second/first century BC (ASIAR 1935–6, p. 53; see also ASIAR 1905–6 and MASI, no. 58). Although it is not possible to get an idea of the ground-plan of the structures, the place provides us with finds of relevant interest. Beside terracotta figures of serpents, a group of terracotta cobra-hoods forming the necks of vessels have been found. But more instructive is a stone relief carved on both sides found in the area of the lower structure near Maniyar Math (ASIAR 1936–7, pp. 45ff., pl. XIIIa, b; cp. also H. K. Prasad 1960, p. 132). It shows in the lower panel of its reverse eight Nāga figures, standing side by side, and above it, behind a stone railing, an architectural structure with the remains of two niches. In the left niche a sitting Nāgī, who does not seem to have been the only figure in it, is preserved. The niche to the right contains only the canopy of another Nāga. On the top of these niches one more panel of standing figures had its place, with an inscription on its base, mentioning *homage to Mani-Nāga*, a famous figure of ancient Rajagriha. The obverse of the sculpture shows the remains of two standing Nāgas and a small accompanying figure. This relief is of spotted red sandstone and undoubtedly a work of a Mathura artist. The inscription and the style suggest a date of the second century AD. The relief contains the earliest depiction of a Nāga temple and shows it as a structure enclosed by a railing. Here the circle closes. There is no reason anymore to doubt the existence of prominent buildings for the worship of Nāgarājas as Nāgadevas in early historical times. The Apsidal Temple no. 2 at Sonkh is, in its upper phase, the best preserved archaeological evidence for this. The architectural design of this temple and the outstanding quality of the sculptures connected with it force us to reconsider our customary ideas of the Nāga cult as a mere folk-cult in primitive surroundings.

IV. CHRONOLOGY OF THE APSIDAL TEMPLE NO. 2

Whereas the main excavation presented the excavators with not less than fourty levels of habitation, the "island" with the remains of the Apsidal Temple no. 2 contains only a restricted number of horizons which were, to make matters worse, heavily mixed up by the haphazardly digging of pits and ditches by the peasants. The surface covers, as already mentioned, structural remains of the Kuṣāṇa times. The deepest structures, on the other hand, are the mud square in 6 III/Cc and the earliest brick construction of the Apsidal Tempel (see Plan, Phase 1, p. 416).

The mud structure is, on its western wall, combined with layers of baked bricks of the size 42.0 × 31.0 × 8.0 cm and stands no doubt in connection with the rectangular spot of floor in front, built of 45.0 × 24.0 × 7.0 cm large baked bricks.

Fortunately, the early structure of the Apsidal Temple no. 2 is of much more help to determine the date of its origin. The platform wall is built of baked bricks measuring 48.0 × 23.0 × 7.0 cm in average, the foundations of the Cella are laid of mud-bricks and erected in baked bricks, both of exactly the same size as those of the platform enclosure. The pillar foundations, on the other hand, consist of baked bricks of the average size of 42.0 × 29.0 × 7.0 cm. A third structural component of the earliest phase of the temple are the fragments of ten burnt roof-tiles (So III G 152–161), obviously of the lateral roof along the cella dome. All these three components, i.e. the 48.0 and 42.0 cm long baked bricks as well as the same type of roof-tiles appear in exactly this combination once and only in Level 27 in the main excavation field. Such a coincidence can only mean that Phase 1 of the Apsidal Temple no. 2 is contemporaneous with just that Sūryamitra Level and has to be dated into the beginning of the first century BC.

A fragment of wall touching the southeast corner of the "island", built of baked bricks of the size 40.0 × 26.0 × 6.0 cm, and layers of same sized bricks interspersed among the remains of walls of the monastery-like cell construction north of the temple, indicate a transitional building phase which, according to the scale of brick- sizes used at Sonkh, has to be dated into the Datta/Kṣatrapa period. The extent of the architectural activities in this time is, unfortunately, not reconstructable.

The upper phase of the temple and its surroundings is datable by 1) the size of bricks, 2) the stylistic features of finds and, 3) two specially located copper coins.

The size of bricks used for the structures belonging to the upper phase is 38 × 24 × 6 cm in average and complies with those of Sonkh Kuṣāṇa buildings in general. Directly belonging to this phase are the remains of the stone railing and the gateway, showing clear Kuṣāṇa features in their reliefs. Among the scanty remains of terracotta human figures were found a few heads (nos. 9–11) which correspond in style to finds of late Kṣatrapa and early Kuṣāṇa period in the main excavation. The remaining terracotta material shows mature Kuṣāṇa features. One seal (Misc.Terr.Obj., no. 1) carries two lines of Kuṣāṇa Brāhmī script.

All this evidence points to a Kuṣāṇa origin of the upper temple construction and adjacent architectural remains. But there is, fortunately, the more distinct find of two copper coins sticking together like a sandwich, discovered directly in the brick foundation of the second pillar from right in the northern row, i.e. exactly in 6 III 17.3/Cc 17.5 (Part II: Coins, nos. 2–3). They are issues of Wima Kadphises and Kaniṣka I and settle the date of the upper phase of Apsidal Temple no. 2 into the beginning of the Kaniṣka era. Except these specimens only four more Kuṣāṇa coins (nos. 1.4–6) have been recovered on the "island", among them the unique and important issue of a Huviṣka medal (no. 6), discussed in detail in its description.

The final fate of this place remains in the dark. There are no structures betraying a further use of the temple or its surroundings after the Kuṣāṇa period. A handful of coins, three Vīrasena, one Vināyakapāla I and one Bharatpur specimen are the only witnesses of later times buried in the sand of this small piece of land. It is not possible to know when the large, four-sided Nāga sculpture, once perhaps the cult image in the apse of the Apsidal Temple no. 2 and now housed in the modern shrine (Part II: Sculpt., no. 22), had been found and set up for worship, perhaps under a tree first, near its findspot. But it might have happened a long time ago so that the place was respected as a sort of sacred area all the time, abandoned by people, except at the moments of *pūjā*, as it is performed even nowadays every Friday.

V. THE FINDS

A. SCULPTURES OF THE GATE

Of the Southern Gate altogether ten carved stone fragments have been recovered, namely

a) the projecting ends of three architraves
b) the middle bottom lintel
c) the western bracket Śālabhañjikā
d) two intermediate square panels from the western pillar axle
e) one complete architectural lion from between the beams
f) two fragments of decorative screens

While the lion is sculptured in the round, all the other pieces are carved on the obverse and the reverse sides. The stone used is the well known mottled red sandstone of the Mathura sculptures. For the find-situation, the state of preservation and the reconstruction of the gate see above under STRUCTURES.

1. Projecting end of the upper architrave.

Obverse: The left end of the piece is nearly semicircular in shape, the right ends in a breakage. The front relief shows an elephant-headed Makara, a lotus bud in a triangular free space, and remains of a decorative panel on the right.

The elephant-headed Makara, facing right, is carrying a partially opened lotus blossom and a lotus bud in its uplifted trunk. The body of the animal is sensitively modelled in low relief with changes in depth of carving emphasizing the upper portion of the trunk and the bulbous nature of the head. The highest portion of the relief are on the same vertical plane as the flat frame. Both the tusks are visible, the one behind just showing its point. Above the small almond-shaped eye appears a band of incised vertical strokes around the crown of the elephants head. The bulk of flesh at the neck and the bulges of skin join into parallel folds. The ear is given as a thin piece of wrinkled flesh. Semicircles at the foot indicate the nail-beds. Wrinkles of the skin are marked by incised lines along the bottom and top of the trunk, under the lower lip and at the back of the leg. Near the ear is a vertical twisted double line stretching about three quarters the length of the ear, probably indicating the musk line.

The hindpart of the elephant ends in a crocodile's tail, set with regularly arranged scales, turning round and becoming smaller and smaller till the tail runs out in a fin, clapped together like tongs. The hindpart, in contrast to the forepart is extremely stylized and simply performs its function of providing the spiral motif for the end of the architrave.

To the right of the animal can be seen the remains of a highly stylized palmette design. A similar floral design appears on the reverse where slightly more of the pattern survives. Its height, not including the undecorated border, is about 19.5 cm while the distance from the centre of the palmette to the border is 10.5 cm. This makes the interior dimensions of the palmette panel ca 19.5 × 21.0 cm. These measurements are not exact for both the sides as there is almost a 1.0 cm difference, at various points, in the height of the obverse and that of the reverse.

The entire panel is placed within an undecorated border which does not strictly conform to the shape of the architrave but is following to some degree the outlines of the animal. Thus a space remains on the beam which is almost triangular. Within this space is a singular lotus bud, perhaps used as space-filler.

Reverse: The heavily mutilated reverse shows the same motifs as the obverse, the elephant, of course, facing left. The slight differences (direction of the lotus, of the spiral end etc.) need not be mentioned particularly. But it is remarkable that in this case the elephant seems to be more in three quarters profile showing a portion of the right ear, the double bumps on the head and the right leg. The design of the decorative panel is again slightly different from that on the obverse.

Top and bottom of the stone are heavily striated: on the top parallel striations, on the rounded end diagonal striations. The bottom is blank. On the right, in the centre of the palmette square corresponding with the intermediate cubic blocks, the stone shows a vertical perforation of a diameter of ca 7.0 cm, becoming narrower towards the middle. On top of the elephant relief is marked a rectangular indentation measuring 8.4 × 7.0 cm, necessary for the insertion of an architectural piece of decoration, here presumably a lion as no. 8. The distance between the centre of the perforated hole and the rectangular indentation amounts to ca 33.6 cm.

Size: L. 67.0 cm. H. 23.2 cm. D. 17.5 cm. Interior length of elephant relief 49.5 cm, interior height 18.5 cm. Mottled red sandstone.

No. So IV 39. FS. 6 III 4.0/Cc 2.3, H. 14.82 m.

2. Projecting end of the middle architrave.

Obverse: The obverse, that is the outer side of the gate, is in this case the much more mutilated side. As the reverse is in a better state of preservation, both the sides carved with the same motif will, for identification of details, better be compared simultaneously.

Both the sides show the figure of a fierce Makara. The beast has its jaws wide open, a man is boldly placing his right resp. left leg in the lower jaw of the animal. This man marks the end of the relief scene, because behind him a bordered square with a palmette design comparable to that of no. 1 is visible. The hindpart of the Makara is very much the same as that of the elephant relief: ending in the scale-set curled-up body of a fish-tailed crocodile which is in the obverse turning right and in the reverse left. Similar also is the triangular space with the lotus bud in it.

The Makara is shown as an aggressive ogre. The protruding eye under the sharp eyebrow, the puffing nostril and the erected ridge on the forehead create the fierce impression. The ear is shaped like a fin, on the cheek of the reverse Makara a round-edged *svastika* is incised. The skin above the upper jaw is heavily wrinkled. The visible leg of the reverse ogre shows a sharp claw and an almond-shaped mark on its thigh. Behind the leg and at the bottom of the body hairs are indicated by hatchings. The lower jaws rest firmly on the ground, in the reverse depicted with four vertical strokes. The open jaws show a complete set of sharp pointed teeth. In the obverse relief the tongue is halfways lifted while in the reverse it seems to rest in the lower jaw.

The male figure displays a cautious movement of entanglement with the beast. The right resp. left arm inflected, the other uplifted, he boldly steps into the open mouth. But the artist depicted the movement in quite different a way. In the obverse, the man places his right leg in a nearly right angle very cautiously just behind the lower teeth. The tongue of the Makara seems to touch his leg. In the reverse, the man has covered his lower leg with the tip of his garment and in a balanced action he courageously puts his outstretched leg between the jaws, just upon the tongue, as it seems. Unfortunately, the head of the male is damaged in both reliefs. Thus the nature of the man is not being disclosed in these representations. But no. 3 helps to identify the figure as a Nāga beyond any doubt.

Both the decorative panels are so heavily mutilated that a description is useless.

Top and bottom: The top side is striated in the direction from obverse to reverse and has one rectangular indentation of the size

9.0 × 6.2 cm in about the middle of the Makara relief, and a circular hole of a diameter of ca 7.0 cm. The distance between the centre of the perforated hole and the rectangular (for an architectural lion) amounts to ca. 39.0 cm. The bottom is plain except an incised groove marking the border line between relief and decorative panel.
Size: L. 71.0 cm. H. 22.5 cm. D. 19.0 cm. Interior length of Makara relief 57.2 cm, interior height 19.5 cm.
No. So IV 38. FS. 6 III 3.7/Cc 2.6, H. 14.73 m.

3. Projecting end of the bottom architrave.
Obverse: This fragment is of the same layout as the other rounded end-pieces of architraves described so far: A framed relief scene, a triangular space filled with a lotus bud, and (part of) a square decorative panel.
The relief shows a fierce Makara into whose mouth a male figure is stepping. The jaws of the beast are wide open, from the nostrils, waves of steam make their way above the wrinkled skin of the mouth and the erected ridge on the forehead. The seemingly dangerous-looking eye is deeply set, covered by a sharp edged eyebrow. The ear has the shape of a fin, the leg is provided with a powerful claw. At the back of his leg and under the body hatched bands indicate a hairy condition of the skin. The top of the head and the cheek show different incised marks: Above the eye a triangle with wavy sides, below the ear an additional undeveloped fin, directly on the cheek some sort of a threefoil symbol.
The hindpart is designed as a scale-set crocodiles tail which is turning in a spiral anticlockwise, ending in a slightly spread fin.
The man in front of the ogre is clad in a dhotī. His right arm inflected, the left uplifted, he steps far into the open mouth, filling the space in it. His face carries an expression of joy, it seems as if he is just a playmate of the Makara, although his movements are rather cautiously timed. Behind his head, a single cobra head appears, identifying him as a Nāga. The left hand shows the palm, there is nothing in his fingers which rest on a piece of uncut stone.
The relief represents the same motif as no. 2, but here the preservation is much better. In general, the carving is smoother than in its counterpart. Due to four centimetres more of space in the length, the Makara head is of longer proportions. But in comparison, some of the fierceness is lost by placing the eye in some sort of a cave instead of letting it wildly glare around, as in the preceding piece. The spiral of the tail is executed more skilfully, introducing a turning movement in about the middle of the length, thus changing the otherwise simple course of the curve.
There remains no doubt that the male figure in no. 2 is a Nāga, as is the case with the completely preserved male in this relief. And nowhere should one see a fight going on, the representation rather meaning a play scene between friendly beings.
Of the decorative panel only a few scrolls of the plant design are left. But this portion of panel has to be seen in connection with the long panel in no. 4 which it directly fits.
Reverse: The reverse of the piece is completely lost, nothing of the relief layer has been preserved. There is but little doubt that this side was decorated with a Makara motif very similar to that of the obverse.
Top and bottom: The top shows striations from front to back, the bottom is blank. On the top is a rectangular indentation of 6.0 × 8.0 cm for the insertion of the tenon of an architectural piece of decoration (lion), the bottom is marked with a deepened square of 8.8 × 10.0 cm and an indented area of 25.0 × 15.3 cm for the attachment of the bracket figure (no. 5). The portion of the decorative panel is vertically pierced by a hole of 5.2 cm diameter in a distance of ca 34.0 cm from the centre of the upper indentation, and of 44.0 cm from the lower one.
Size: L. 72.6 cm. H. 22.2 cm. D. 16.4–17.2 cm (reverse cracked off). Interior length of Makara relief 61.5 cm, interior height 18.5 cm.
No. So IV 37. FS. 6 III 4.0/Cc 3.1, H. 14.77 m.

4. Middle lintel of the bottom architrave.
The lintel terminates on both ends in the damaged portion of the decorative panels connecting it with the rounded Makara end-pieces the left one of which is preserved (no. 3) and fits the left breakage of the beam perfectly. A fragment of at least the reverse of the right end-piece had been recovered prior to the excavation and was published by Czuma/Morris, 1985, p. 62, no. 10 (cp. chapter II, STRUCTURES).
Obverse: To the left and right of the extensive relief remains of the connecting decorative panels are visible which presumably showed the same palmette pattern as preserved on the left side and its supplement to the right of the left end-piece (no. 3). These square panels are pierced with a round hole at the place where they rested on the jamb of the doorway.
The large middle relief is counting not less than nineteen figures, among them four women. In the centre of the scene are sitting a Nāgarāja and a Nāginī. To the right two female servants carry the royal emblems: a chowrie and an umbrella. Both are characterized as Nāginīs by a single snake-hood rising behind the head. The three male persons on the same side are likewise marked as Nāgas by similar snake-hoods, all of them clad in a dhotī and with the hands in añjali. The last Nāga attendant in the scene is the girl standing beside the seated Nāginī: she holds a necklace, just handed over to her by her mistress with the order to make it a present to the leader of a visiting group appearing on the left side of the relief. The members of this group are no Nāgas because none of them is provided with a snake-hood and all are differently dressed proving them as strangers which form a delegation consisting of three Brāhmaṇas, four young men (ascetics or disciples) and four children. The second Brāhmaṇa holds a flask by its handle, the men behind him raise the hands in añjali. The Nāgarāja is sitting on an intentionally displaced throne in a clearly tilted position, with his left leg free of the footrest and the seven-headed cobra-hood out of centre. In his pot-bellied placidity he looks like a drunk. His hands grasp a garland or piece of cloth which stretches from the tallest of the children via the hands of the leader of the delegation and the left hand of the Nāginī directly to him.
The Nāginī to the right hand side of the Nāgarāja is depicted as if not the Nāga king but she herself would be the commanding person in the scene. She sits with legs apart, the feet placed on a footrest and with an orderly folded piece of cloth between the legs on a stool. Behind her head raises a seven-headed cobra-hood. With a haughty gesture she is, as already mentioned, handing over with her right hand a piece of jewelry to her servant to pass it on to the first Brāhmaṇa.
In a previous publication (Härtel, 1976, p. 98) the author made a few remarks on the position and possible identity of the Nāginī just described which may be repeated here: Normally, in Indian art a Nāga queen is placed to the left of the Nāgarāja, is smaller in size, and has two cobras less in her canopy than the ruler. Here, the Nāginī shows the same number of snake heads in her hood, sits to the right of the Nāgarāja, and is as tall as he. Since she, in addition, behaves like the commanding person, she may not be Vāsuki's queen at all. The relevant literature seems to offer only one name fitting the situation of a female Nāga with the powers of a king: Jaratkāru, the sister of the Nāgarāja Vāsuki.
This Nāga panel has been discussed already by R. C. Sharma, 1984, pp. 86f., fig. 9, and studied thoroughly by S. P. Tewari, 1986, pp. 523–532. Starting from the author's reference to Jaratkāru S. P. Tewari brings the

scene in connection with the story of Āstīka as narrated in the Āstīka parvan of the Mahābhārata and identifies the tallest of the children as Āstīka, the Nāginī as his mother Jaratkāru and, of course, the Nāgarāja as Vāsuki. While the author and R. C. Sharma were of the opinion that the garland resp. piece of cloth is being given as a present to the king, S. P. Tewari sees it the other way round and interprets it as an act of snatching the uttarīya from the Nāgarāja, which is, according to him, confirmed by the tilt in the position of the king on account of which his left leg is shown free of the footrest. This snatching away of the upper garment is to be understood as the act of pūrṇa-pātra performed when a good news was to be celebrated. Here the good news was that the brave deed of Āstīka finally saved the Nāga race from destruction by king Janamejaya.

This interpretation is tempting, especially because S. P. Tewari seems to have all the answers as to the presence of the delegation including the group of children. But there are a few points which do not really fit the story. If the tallest boy is Āstīka in the act of snatching the upper garment from Vāsuki one would expect him in a position of dragging the cloth himself, but he is not even touching it because his hands are supporting a basket in which the cloth (or garland) lies. The linear pattern of the basket which reaches up to the right thigh of the leading Brāhmaṇa is clearly visible underneath. Secondly, the handing over of a piece of jewelry to the first Brāhmaṇa would be better understood as a present given in return for another. In case the cloth (or garland) is being presented to the king the return present would be handed over after finishing this first act of presentation. S. P. Tewari sees the Brāhmaṇa holding a bowl "filled with jewels and on top of which still a necklace is being placed by the Nāga maid". This is not so, the left hand of him is clearly supporting the cloth (or garland), and what Tewari interpretes as a bowl are the bulgy folds of the garment on his left upper arm. Thirdly, as will be seen later, terracotta moulds taken directly from the group of children in this relief do not show Āstīka, the hero of this story, but the smaller children behind him (Terr. Fig. nos. 1–3). These points have to be accounted for if one is inclined to accept Tewari's interpretation.

The artistic quality of the relief is remarkable. The nineteen actors have been skilfully distributed over the long-stretched frieze. In the centre the main figures who are the most active participants in the scene. To the right the servants of the Nāga court. On the left side the visiting delegation whose members are depicted in varying tallness. Below, the group of children, shown as standing lined up according to their size and thus being a touching sight. The piece of cloth (or garland) crossing part of the scenery brings a countermovement into the strongly vertical adjustment of the actors in the relief. The artist took pains to give the faces an individual expression as to be seen with the Nāgarāja, the Nāginī, and the members of the delegation.

Reverse: Unfortunately, the reverse is for the most part corroded. Only some contours and a few remnants of human figures are preserved. The field of the relief was, as on the obverse side, separated from the adjoining panels with now totally damaged floral design to the right and left by plain bands.

Once the reverse relief contained thirteen figures. One of them is completely gone, the others are more or less preserved in outlines. Six persons each are walking in procession from the right and the left towards a central figure which is standing frontal with the right hand raised and a flask in the lowered left.

To judge from the garments, all the figures depict male persons clad in dhotīs with large scarf arranged in the same way as to be seen with the three Nāga court servants on the right side of the obverse. It is not possible to decide whether these men where provided with a cobra on their head. At least three figures of the group on the right hold a large vessel (with lid?) with their hands. The two men standing directly on the sides of the central figure seem, according to their position and movement, to perform a special duty (carrying chowrie, umbrella?). Unfortunately, the head of the main figure is also lost, but there is sufficient reason to assume that a mould (Terr. Fig. no. 4) found together with those of the group of children taken from the obverse represents the head of this central person which by the remains of a cobra-hood could then be identified as a Nāga of higher rank, presumably as Nāgarāja.

Top and bottom: On top, seven indentations of different shapes in the sequence octagonal, small rectangular, octagonal, long rectangular, octagonal, small rectangular and octagonal are visible, completed by two fragmentary holes. The bottom shows remains only of these vertical holes in the palmette fields. The purpose of the indentations on top of the middle lintel is no doubt to insert decorative architectural pieces filling the space between the beams.

Size: L. 128 cm. H. 22.1 cm. D. 16.4 cm. Interior length of Nāga relief 101 cm, interior height 18.5 cm.

No. So IV 36. FS. 6 III 3.2/Cc 2.9, H. H. 14.73 m.

5. Toraṇa bracket with Śālabhañjikā figures.

The find spot and the curved shape of the sculpture denotes that it is the western bracket stone from the southern gate. It was carved on both sides with the figure of a Śālabhañjikā of which the reverse one is preserved only in contours.

Obverse: The Śālabhañjikā is shown under a flowering *aśoka* tree, balancing with her feet on the back of a crouching dwarf whose facial expression is one of the utmost joy. Her right arm is raised touching a branch of the tree and the other arm resting on her hip. She stands with her right leg crossing over the left and with the hip, on which the arm rests, thrust out. With the exception of a fracture line in the height of the lower legs the figure of the Śālabhañjikā is well preserved. She is giving the impression of being nude, but the drapery folds on her left side indicate that she is wearing a diaphanous lower garment. The hair is arranged in tight strands except a circular space filled with a decorative bunch of hair. She is adorned with large pendant ear-rings, a precious pearl-necklace (*ekāvalī*), ornamented arm-rings and numerous bangles on the lower arms and legs. The anklets have the shape of a snake with a seven-headed canopy. Her girdle is made of four rows of discs, each row suspended over the one below it and ending in a rounded lotus-adorned belt buckle tied together by a knotted ribbon. Directly above the girdle a string of the diaphanous garment is clearly marked.

Reverse: The back of the bracket was carved with a mirror image of the obverse Śālabhañjikā but is preserved in its outlines only showing her grasping the tree with the left hand and resting accordingly the bent right arm on her hip. She stands with her left leg crossing over the right and her foot poised. This pose is not necessarily to be interpreted as *aśokadohada* because the alternating position of the legs is, like that of the whole figure, conditioned by the curved shape of the bracket stone.

On *top and bottom* the bracket stone ends in a 2.8–3.0 cm thick slab which obviously was directly inserted in the lowest architrave resp. in the pillar of the toraṇa, because no tenon is traceable.

Size: Utmost height 77.6 cm. B. top 25.2 cm, bottom 26.4 cm. D. top 15.3 cm, bottom 15.5 cm.

No. So IV 27. FS. 6 III 0.3/Cc 1.7, H. 14.61 m.

6. Square block, separating the architraves from each other.

Of the western cube, presumably between the lower and the middle lintel one of the two relief sides is preserved. It shows two three-headed cobras with the bodies intertwined. The tails of the snakes are twisted spirally, and in the lower part the skin is marked with small incised circles. Where the bodies become tripartite, the snakes show their breast, the skin-folds indicated by

horizontal striations. The middle body is made stronger, showing a blown cobra-hood. The other two heads are turned inwards, their split tongues are darting out. The space between the hoods is occupied by a lotus bud. On all the four sides the relief was framed by a plain, 2.0 cm broad border, the left one of which is damaged. The relief on the reverse of this block is completely broken away till to the vertical hole of 7.2 cm diameter, perforating the stone from top to bottom.
Size: 21.6 × 21.3 × (damaged) 13.0 cm
No. So IV 28. FS. 6 III 0.1/Cc 1.8, H. 14.61 m.

7. Square block, separating the architraves from each other.
The second architectural cube found in addition to no.6 is carved on both sides with fanciful palmette patterns. From a floral bundle knotted around a vertical axle formed by two veined blades emerge numerous long leaves winding up and down and combining each other with their curled tips. This pattern, developed from nāgapuṣpa motifs, is improved by an alternating lining of the leaves.
The design on the back looks quite similar but shows a lotus rosette instead of the floral bundle in the centre of the relief.
Both carvings are framed by a plain border of ca 2.0 cm width. The upper and lower side of the block is striated from relief to relief. A round hole of ca 6.0 cm diameter perforates the stone from top to bottom.
Size: 21.0 × 20.8 × 17.0 cm.
No. So IV 35. FS. 6 III 6.0/Cc 0.6, H. 14.82 m.

8. Architectural Lion.
The animal is conceived in the round and placed on a flat base under which a tenon is projecting. Seated on the hind legs the lion is stemming his forelegs against the ground and opening his mouth in a roar. The head is intentionally flattened from the ears to the muzzle in order to fit the piece between two beams of the toraṇa. Both the bulgy cheekbones are marked with incised floral (or stylized sun) motifs consisting of three S-shaped lines crossing each other in the centre. The half-open mouth shows a tooth each to the left and the right; muzzle-hair is indicated by horizontal strokes. A long mane, marked by slightly curved incised lines, covers the back of the head and the front of the neck. The forelegs show scratched marks of hair above the paws.
Size: L. 23.5 cm. H. (without tenon) 21.4 cm. D. 11.2 cm. The tenon projects 2.8 cm from the base and measures 8.0 × 5.2 cm.
No. So IV 29. FS. 6 III 0.3/Cc 2.25, H. 14.55 m.

a) Rear part of a lion seated on his hind legs framed by bristling hair. The animal is placed on a flat base with part of a tenon underneath.
Size: 14.0 × 6.8 × 8.1 cm.
No. So IV 183. FS. 6 IV 7.62/Cc 13.33, H. 15.53 m.

9. Fragment of a perforated double-sided architectural screen.
Two four-petalled lotus flowers marked with lenticular incisions along the edge of the leaves are arranged in such a way that a third motif of a circle consisting of two petals of each flower touching each other is formed. Along and around the petals the stone is perforated and ground. The motif is framed by a plain border-band, the (opposite) sides being 1.2 and 2.4 cm wide.
It needs a second, now missing, half to complete the screen which would measure ca 15.1 × 20.0 × 2.5 cm, the wider border-band becoming inserted in the respective indentation on top (and bottom) of the architraves.
Size: 15.2 × 10.4 × 3.2 cm.
No. So IV 64. FS. 6 III Cb/Cc.

10. Fragment of a perforated architectural screen.
Nearly identical carving as before, consisting of two four-petalled lotus flowers in plain border. The piece does not fit no.9.
Size: 16.8 × 10.2 × 3.0 cm.
No. So IV 43. FS. 6 III 1.9/Cc 1.0, H. 14.50 m.

B. MISCELLANEOUS STONE SCULPTURES

In the area adjoining the Apsidal Temple 2 eleven fragments of mostly smaller sculptures and architectural pieces were recovered. In addition, five mostly fragmentary larger images have to be listed which were found here prior to the excavation and could be located either in the Mathura Museum, in private possession or, as the Nāga image in worship as Cāmardevī, on the site (nos. 20–24).

11. Fragment of a relief carved on two sides.
Obverse: Upper part of a Yakṣī raising her arms and pressing the palms of the hands against the framing wall. Her head is slightly tilted, the hair is arranged in flat strands. Large ear-rings, a broad collar, and a number of bangles on the lower arms adorn the body.
Reverse: Right side of a female turned left under a tree. Presumably in a Śālabhañjikā position. The right arm is held akimbo, behind it appears a twig of tree. Face and head of the girl are strongly mutilated preserving just the right eye, part of the forehead and the hair-dress.
Size: 8.5 × 8.2 × 7.5 cm.
No. So IV 289. FS. 6 IV 11.46/Cd 6.30, H. 14.55 m.

12. Fragment of a relief. A man is standing in front of a *caitya* with his right arm raised, the mutilated hand turned inwards. His left arm is broken off. The man is clad in a dhotī which is gathered around the hips and tied into a knot on his left side; another part of the garment is arranged in folds hanging down between the legs. Face and chest are very much worn.
Between the raised arm and the plain border of the relief stands a pillar with ornamental capital. Amidst the head of the figure and the capital remains a thick part of an obviously split arch which might be the remnants of a Nāga hood. In the background towers the dome of a *caitya* topped by a *harmikā* (?) or part of a railing. On the right side of the dome a scratched curved band is visible the meaning of which remains unclear.
Size: 23.0 × 10.5 × 5.0 cm.
No. So IV 33. FS. 6 III 5.6/Cc 0.6, H. 15.41 m.

13. Lower part of a male figure, split off from a relief. Body from hips to ankles, clad in a dhotī gathered around hips and knotted on the right side. Other parts of the garment are hanging down on the left hip and between the legs. To the left and perhaps also to the right of the lower legs a small figure seems to stand with the arm raised to the folded end of the garment.
Size: H. 11.5 cm.
No. So IV 62. FS. 6 III Cb/Cc.

14. Fragment of a relief showing the feet of a human figure standing on a pedestal decorated with the railing pattern. Between the legs hangs the tasseled end of the garment. To the right of the railing appear the blurred remains of either a seated Nāga figure or of a theriomorphic Nāga with spread hood under a tree (?).
Size: 10.6 × 12.4 cm.
No. So IV 384. FS. 6 III 3.62/Cc 9.60, H. 14.66 m.

15. Fragment of a relief with a blurred female figure, perhaps seated, the right arm lowered. Above her head the remains of a Nāga hood.
Size: H. 19.9 cm.
No. So IV 56. FS. 6 III Cb/Cc.

16. Fragment of a relief showing a standing Nāga. Contrary to the common depiction of semi-theriomorphic Nāgas this one has an animal upper body whereas the lower part is human. Even so, the snake-shaped head is provided with a human ear adorned with an ear-ring. On the neck and chest horizontal folds of the snake-skin are recognizable. From the shoulder appears an arm holding in its hand something like a book, the cover of which is decorated with a rhombus pattern. The pot-bellied figure stands on rather unsafe legs with slightly bent knees. Traces of a garment are recognizable from the hip to the loin. Towards right the relief is broken off, on the left the Nāga leans against an architectural upright (pillar?) behind which remnants of the plain border of the relief are visible.
Size: 18.0 × 9.5 × 6.7 cm.
No. So IV 327. FS. 6 IV 9.14/Cc 19.48, H. 14.69 m.

17. Upper part of a Nāginī with the right arm raised, the hand turned inwards. A bar, decorated with incised strokes on the outside, connects the back of the hand with the background. The lower body is broken off below the breast. The figure is adorned with long ear-rings, a collar, and a bracelet combined with a number of bangles. On the left shoulder a piece of shawl is preserved. The hair is combed towards the sides, crossed in the middle by a vertically arranged strand of hair. Behind the shoulders and the head a hood consisting of three cobras blows up like a nimbus showing the skin-folds of the chest of the two outer snakes. One of the cobra heads is broken off, the middle one shows a reliefed rosette on top of its hood.
At the back of the head the three bodies of the cobras stand up, marked with incised circles. In the height of the left shoulder of the Nāginī remains of two horizontally winding coils are visible.
Size: 16.6 × 10.9 × 5.3 cm.
No. So IV 360. FS. 6 IV 15.35/Cc 13.6, H. 14.62 m.

18. Fragment of a Nāga hood. Preserved is one head only with a carved *cakra* symbol on top of its blown up hood.
Size: 3.2 × 5.2 × 2.7 cm.
No. So IV 307. FS. 6 IV 18.38/Cc 16.75, H. 14.91 m.

19. Upper part of a defaced big Nāga image. Recognizable are the outlines of ear-rings and the horizontal skinfolds of the chests of snakes. The hood consisted undoubtedly of seven cobras. The back is worn.
Size: 46.0 × 56.0 × 25.0 cm.
No. So IV 94. FS. Surface find.

20. Plinth with corroded remains of a free-standing image. On the back a piece of a snake's coil is preserved. The plinth itself is roughly hewn. The sculpture was set up close to the northern entrance.
Size: 24.0 × 19.0 × 9.0 cm.
No. So IV 73. FS. 6 IV 13.7/Cb 18.95, H. 15.16 m.

21. Fragment of an octagonal pillar with plain sides. The pillar was standing in the north east corner of the temple area.
Size: H. 49.0 cm. Diam. 14.0 cm.
No. So IV 390. FS. 6 IV 14.25/Cc 18.9, H. 14.82 m.

22. Four-sided Nāga image, in worship on the site of the Apsidal Temple 2 as Cāmardevī (Cāmuṇḍā). The obverse and the reverse show mirror-like the figure of a Nāgarāja with the right arm raised, its hand turned inwards *(vyāvṛtta mudrā)*. The slightly bent left arm is lowered to the thigh holding a flask (?). Behind his shoulders and head arises a seven-headed cobra-hood. To the sides of the right and the left arm the horizontally striated chests of the snakes are recognizable. All other details are totally worn away. The legs are broken off. Whith the stumps of the thighs the figure is inserted in the floor of the modern temple in which it is now housed and worshipped by the villagers.
The reverse shows, as already mentioned, a mirror image of the obverse one, being even more corroded.
On the narrow sides of the image theriomorphic Nāga-hoods are rising, showing the horizontally striated front of seven cobra bodies before which three stalks with lotus buds become visible. Three of the cobra heads are preserved on each of the sides, those on the right displaying their split tongues.
The horizontal cut in the lower part has presumably been made by the people installing the image in the temple or has been caused by some previous action.
This is, to the knowledge of the author, the only four-sided Nāga image of the early period of Indian art.
Size: Height from top to inserted bottom 143 cm. Upper width 102 cm, in the line of the thighs 90.0 cm. Depth from the obverse forehead to that of the reverse 35.0 cm.

23. Fragment of a tympanum originally placed above the doorway leading to the temple. The piece is carved on both sides.
Obverse: Below a broad and slightly curved tier ornamented with a creeper design an aquatic scene is depicted showing a Makara who is hunting another animal. In the corner above the tier rises a mountain landscape with steeply amassed rocks. In it a man is climbing upwards who is enclasped by a three-headed cobra the hood of which towers up behind his head. He is not fighting the snake, it belongs to him: he is a Nāga. He might be depicted as leaving the netherworld situated below the mountains.
Reverse: On the other side an exact copy of the obverse scene is depicted showing traces of a second tier below the figure of the Makara.
Both relief sides are framed by a plain border. On the right and left sides the stone ends in a broad flattened edge necessary for the insertion of the tympanum in the door frame.
The piece had been located in the possession of a villager. It could be acquired for the Govt. Museum Mathura.
Size: 47.0 × 26.0 × 6.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone.

24. Torso of a standing Nāga. The sculpture is conceived in the round, head, right arm, left hand and feet are missing. The right arm was raised above the head, most probably touching the cobra-hood. The left arm is bent towards the breast, its hand must have held a cup. The body displays a slight bend to the left with the hip thrust out, giving the figure an elegant swerve. It is clad in a dhotī and a scarf tied round the loins which terminates in a bulgy loop. Traces of a necklace can be seen on the breast. Under the arms and to the sides of the waist remains of the snake's coils are preserved.
The torso is of the type of the Chargaon Nāga and other comparable Nāga figures. It has been found in the fields near to Apsidal Temple 2 in 1963 and is displayed in the garden gallery of the Govt.Museum Mathura (no. 63.5, cp. Srivastava/Misra 1973, p. 65, no. 224).
Size: Ht. 125 cm. Mottled red sandstone.

25. Fragment of a large standing Nāga figure, preserved from the thighs to the ankles only. A loop of the garment falls down over the right leg while another end of it hangs along the left. A roundish spot of breakage in the height of the left knee betrays the place

of the water flask in the left hand of the Nāga. To the sides of the feet stands one Nāga adorant each, identifiable by a hood of a single cobra behind the head, and the hands held in añjali. The back of the figure is slightly rounded with no traces of carving.
The fragment has been found in the fields between the main excavation area and the Apsidal Temple 2 at 4 III/Cc. It has been handed over to the Govt.Museum Mathura.
Size: 41.0 × 53.0 × 29.0 cm. Mottled red sandstone.

26. Hip-part of a standing figure with traces of the knotted garment and its ends hanging down between the legs and on the right thigh. Back unmodelled.
The fragment has been found in the fields between the main excavation area and the Apsidal Temple 2 at 4 III/Cc. It has been handed over to the Govt.Museum Mathura.
Size: 20.5 × 21.0 × 5.5 cm. Mottled red sandstone.

C. SCULPTURES OF THE RAILING

Of the stone railing enclosing the area of the Apsidal Temple no. 2 at Sonkh in ancient times one hundred six pieces and fragments have been unearthed of which, unfortunately, more than two thirds are tiny and insignificant fragments of cross-bars. The twenty-nine (plus five) specimens depicted and described here stand for the whole spectrum of the architectural forms and artistic patterns of the railing. These pieces are listed in the sequence pillar (*stambha*), cross-bar (*sūcī*), and coping-stone (*uṣṇīṣa*).

1) Pillars

27. Upper half of a railing pillar (*vedikā stambha*) with the remains of a tenon on top. On the obverse and reverse the pillar is triply fluted vertically so as to give it, notwithstanding the sides with the mortices, a hexagonal appearance.
Obverse: The pillar is in its upper field decorated with a half lotus rosette below a 2.4 cm high plain topping band. The rosette shows four broad curved but slightly pointed petals with three sepals in between. Its centre consists of half of the disc-shaped gynoecium and the oblique ring of the androecium with thirteen anther lobes. To the sides a lotus bud fills the space between the rosette and the edge of the pillar.
The full medallion contains the figure of a Nāgarāja with a canopy of seven cobra heads. The hand of the uplifted right arm holds three lotus stalks, that of the left arm is held in height of the hip and was presumably carrying a now indefinite object. The lower body of the figure runs out in a striated snake's tail. The Nāgarāja wears a turban with a tall cockade and is, so far as preserved, adorned with large ear-rings, a collar, and armlets as well as bracelets.
The background of the medallion is filled with a lotus rosette of long pointed petals with sepals in between. One lotus bud each is placed in the corners between the round of the medallion and the edges of the pillar.
Reverse: The other side is decorated with a half lotus rosette on top and a full one below. The half rosette consists of four broad curved petals with sepals in between. The middle disc is divided into quadrants by an incised cross. Two lotus buds appear in the spandrels.
The full rosette has a corolla of eight petals with sepals between the tips. The middle disc of the gynoecium is surrounded by the ring of the anther lobes of the androecium. Four lotus buds fill the spandrels of the medallion.
The left and right sides of the pillar show one full 22.0 cm long mortise and the tip of a second one below. The distance between the two is 13.0 cm.
Size: 53.0 × 23.0 × 14.5 cm. Height of tenon 3.5 cm.
No. So IV 2. FS. 6 III 1.8/Cb 17.0, H. 15.00 m.

28. One side of a lengthwise split railing pillar. It is triply fluted like no. 27 and decorated with a half lotus each on top and bottom and a central lotus rosette. On top appears a plain stripe for fitting the coping-stone.
The upper half rosette has pointed petals with middle rib alternating with groups of seven sepals each. The disc of the gynoecium is divided into quadrants in which one anther lobe each is turned inwards. Two buds fill the spandrels.
The central rosette has a corolla of eight petals of the same shape as the half rosette above, but now with an incised border line. Between the tips of the petals appear again seven pointed sepals. The inner circle shows eight anther lobes with pricked tips. The disc in the middle represents the gynoecium. Four lotus buds fill the spandrels.
The remaining part of the bottom half rosette shows broad pointed petals with a middle rib and damaged sets of sepals in between. Two lotus buds fill the spandrels. In the centre of the rosette appear the heads of three cobras, the middle one shown frontal, the others slightly in profile.
Size: 75.0 × 17.5 × 5.5 cm.
No. So IV 40. FS. 6 III 19.0/Cb 2.1, H. 14.75 m.

29. Fragment of a triply fluted railing pillar with a half rosette on both sides. The better preserved side shows six slightly pointed petals of alternating design and with a set of three sepals each between the tips. The inclined androecium has fourteen anther lobes in the half rosette. The raised gynoecium is flat with a central prick and incised border line. Two lotus buds fill the spandrels. On top a plain stripe and a tenon for fixing the coping-stone.
The other side is crusty. The half rosette below the plain edge consists of four broad rounded petals with sepals in between. Six anther lobes are turned towards the gynoecium. Two lotus buds are filling the spandrels.
Size: 29.0 × 20.8 × 14.4 cm.
No. So IV 17. FS. 6 III 1.8/Cb 18.5, H. 14.85 m.

30. Two fragmentary fluted pillars with three plain cross-bars from the north-east corner (6 IV Cc/Cd) of the temple area. This part of railing is of much more simple design than all the other remains of pillars and cross-bars found in the surroundings. There is no middle medallion and the *sūcīs* are completely plain. The upper half rosettes on the *stambhas* of this reconstructed part of railing are restored.
Size: Pillars 86.0 × 19.5 × 16.0 cm. Cross-bars 30.3 × 18.0 × 4.8 cm.
No. So IV 287; 288; 294; 296; 308. FS. 6 IV 11.45–13.50/Cc 19.70-Cd 0.15–0.20, H. 15.15–15.30 m.
Note: One more fragment of pillar under So IV 299, 6 IV 12.2/Cc 19.75.

2) Cross-bars

Most of the cross-bars have been found to the south of the Apsidal Temple. All of them are carved with a lotus rosette in a medallion on both sides, but none is adorned with lotus buds in the space of the spandrels (nos. 31–40). It is, therefore, striking that nearly all of the pieces found (in admittedly lower number) in 6 IV Cb/Cc show exactly this filling of the spandrels (nos. 41–45). Two pieces, having oblique sides, belonged to staircase-railings (nos. 46–47). In a special spot to the north-east of the temple a group of completely plain cross-bars were recovered (nos. 48–49), fitting to a likewise simple type of pillars (no. 30; cp. STRUCTURES).

31. Cross-bar.
Side A
Medallion showing a corolla of eight petals with pointed tips, incised middle ribs and borderlines. Three sepals, one big and two small, alternate between the petals. The androecium consists of thirty-one thin anther lobes. The raised small disc of the gynoecium is flat with central prick and incised borderline.
Side B
Eight-petalled lotus design. The heart-shaped and bordered petals alternate with single sepals. Deep cut lines of a cross divide the gynoecium into quadrants which again are subdivided into octants, each forming an anther lobe.
Size: max. 30.5 × 21.5 × 5.5 cm.
No. So IV 3. FS. 6 III 1.8/Cb 17.0, H. 15.00 m.

32. Cross-bar.
Side A
Medallion with a corolla of eight broad curved petals and sepals in between. The petals show an incised middle rib and borderline. A deep cut cross divides the gynoecium into quadrants which again are subdivided into eight octants, each forming an anther lobe.
Side B
Rare type of lotus rosette consisting of four broad curved and bordered petals alternating with groups of seven to ten sepals. The central gynoecium and androecium is carelessly incised. A large deep-cut cross covers the whole medallion.
Size: max. 28.5 × 21.5 × 4.0 cm
No. So IV 4. FS. 6 III 2.75/Cb 12.35, H. 15.09–14.85 m.

33. Cross-bar.
Side A
Eight-petalled lotus with three-pointed sepals between its tips. The petals are slightly pointed and bordered. The gynoecium is encircled by eight anther lobes.
Side B
Weather-worn surface with an eight-petalled lotus design exactly like on side B of no. 31.
Size: max. 26.5 × 21.0 × 5.0 cm.
No. So IV 5. FS. 6 III 2.35/Cb 15.15, H. 14.80 m.

34. Cross-bar.
Side A
Medallion with eight heart-shaped petals alternating with sepals in between them. The middle disc shows the gynoecium with its styles and stigmas.
Side B
Medallion with a corolla of eight pointed petals alternating with three-tipped sepals. The petals are marked with an incised middle rib and borderline. The inner ring consists of twenty-four anther lobes encircling the raised gynoecium.
Size: max. 29.0 × 21.0 × 5.5 cm.
No. So IV 7. FS. 6 III 0.75/Cb 11.4, H. 14.57 m.

35. Cross-bar.
Side A
Eight-petalled lotus design. The petals of the corolla are long and pointed and marked with incised middle rib and borderline. Three sepals each, one long and two small, appear between the tips. The raised gynoecium is encircled by a ring of twenty-four anther lobes.
Side B
A corolla of eight heart-shaped and bordered petals with a sepal between them. The deep-cut lines of a cross divide the gynoecium in quadrants, each one representing an anther lobe.
Size: max. 31.5 × 21.5 × 5.5 cm.
No. So IV 18. FS. 6 III 1.95/Cb 18.4, H. 14.70 m.

36. Cross-bar.
Side A
Medallion showing a corolla of eight lotus petals and sepals in between. The petals have broad tips and are marked with a borderline and a middle rib with curved top. An incised cross divides the central disc in quadrants in each of which two anther lobes are turned inwards.
Side B
The medallion is carved with an eight-petalled lotus and three-pointed sepals in between. The petals are slightly pointed and marked with incised middle rib and borderline. The androecium consists of twenty-four anther lobes surrounding the raised gynoecium.
Size: max. 31.5 × 22.5 × 5.3 cm.
No. So IV 19. FS. 6 III 2.25/Cb 18.35, H. 14.70 m.

37. Cross-bar.
Side A
Medallion with a corolla of eight broad and pointed petals and sepals in between. The petals are marked with an incised middle rib and a borderline. A ring of twenty-six anther lobes surrounds the raised gynoecium.
Side B
The corolla consists of eight petals marked with heart-shaped incisions. Between the tips appear three sepals. The disc in the middle is divided into quadrants by a cross fringed with filaments. Each quadrant shows two anther lobes.
Size: max. 30.0 × 21.5 × 5.5 cm.
No. So IV 20. FS. 6 III 1.9/Cb 17.4, H. 14.75 m.

38. Cross-bar.
Side A
Medallion with an eight-petalled lotus rosette. The petals are broad, slightly pointed and marked with borderline and three-rayed notch. One large and two small sepals each appear between the tips of the petals. The ring around the gynoecium shows the anther lobes and filaments arranged in the form of spirals.
Side B
Corolla of eight broad curved petals marked with incised borderline and middle rib. Between the petals appears one sepal each. The central disc is weather-worn but seems to be similar in design with side B of no. 37.
Size: max. 27.5 × 20.5 × 4.1 cm.
No. So IV 22. FS. 6 III 0.15/Cb 12.95, H. 14.55 m.

39. Cross-bar.
Side A
Medallion with a corolla of eight lotus petals provided with middle rib and borderline. Three sepals, one long two small, appear between the tips of the petals. Twenty-four anther lobes form a ring around the raised gynoecium.
Side B
Defaced.
Size max. 28.0 × 20.5 × 4.5 cm.
No. So IV 31. FS. 6 III 2.7/Ca 2.1, H. 15.05 m.

40. Fragment of a cross-bar.
Side A
Medallion carved with a corolla of eight pointed petals with middle rib but no borderline. Groups of seven sepals fill the space between the tips of the petals. A stylized broad cross divides the central disc into quadrants each of which shows two in-turned anther lobes.
Side B
Medallion with a rosette of four very broad and ribbed petals alternating with sepals. The large middle disc shows the gynoecium with its stylized styles and stigmas.
Size: max. 25.0 × 19.5 × 6.0 cm.
No. So IV 74. FS. 6 IV 3.68/Cc 4.8, H. 14.84 m.

41. Fragment of a cross-bar.
Side A
Medallion showing a corolla of eight broad and curved petals incised with middle rib and borderline. The central disc depicts the gynoecium with its stylized styles and stigmas. The spandrels of the medallion are filled with lotus buds consisting of two petals and sepals in between.
Side B
Eight-petalled corolla. Sepals between the broad and rounded petals. A stylized broad cross divides the central disc into quadrants each of which shows two in-turned anther lobes.
Size: max. 24.3 × 18.4 × 5.6 cm.
No. So IV 383. FS. 6 IV 10.78/Cb 13.16, H. 15.34 m.

42. Fragment of a cross-bar.
Side A
Remains of a medallion showing eight pointed petals with incised middle rib. Groups of five sepals fill the space between the tips of the petals. Six anther lobes are turned towards the gynoecium with its stylized styles and stigmas. On the preserved side lotus buds are visible in the spandrels of the medallion.
Side B
Remains of a corolla of originally eight petals marked with three-rayed notches and incised borderlines. The central disc is not clearly recognizable. Traces of lotus buds in the spandrels.
Size: max. 17.0 × 14.2 × 5.4 cm.
No. So IV 248. FS. 6 IV 16.58/Cc 13.75, H. 15.25 m.

43. Fragment of a cross-bar.
Side A
Remains of a presumably twelve-petalled lotus with sepals between the tips. In the centre are traces of a ring of anther lobes. The spandrels of the medallion are filled with lotus buds.
Side B
Two petals of a lotus rosette with incised curved ribs and borderlines. The central disc is damaged. A lotus bud fills the preserved one spandrel.
Size: max.16.5 × 9.5 × 4.5 cm.
No. So IV 41. FS. 6 IV 12.3/Cc 7.05, H. 15.58 m.

44. Fragment of a cross-bar.
Side A
Part of a framed square with the remains of three pointed petals of a lotus rosette. The central disc is divided into quadrants by a beaded cross. Each quadrant contains two in-turned anther lobes.
Side B
Traces of pointed petals and a centre of concentric circles.
Size: max.19.0 × 13.0 × 2.5 cm.
No. So IV 104. FS. 6 IV 3.4/Cb 18.0, H. 15.55 m.

45. Fragment of a cross-bar.
Side A
Part of a corolla with remains of four petals showing a middle rib. Three sepals each fill the space between the petals. The gynoecium is edged. Lotus buds appear in the spandrels of the medallion.
Side B
Three petals with sepals and remains of a ring of anther lobes. The spandrels of the medallion are filled with lotus buds.
Size: max.17.0 × 16.0 × 6.0 cm.
No. So IV 96. FS. 6 III 8.00/Ca 3.80, H. 14.75 m

46. Cross-bar.
The oblique cut of the side indicates that this piece is part of a staircase railing.
Side A
Medallion with a corolla of eight petals of broad rounded shape and with incised middle rib and borderline. Between the petals appears one sepal each. Twenty anther lobes are arranged in a ring round the gynoecium.
Side B
Eight-petalled corolla with single sepals in between. The broad spatula-shaped petals are marked with a borderline and a middle rib diverging in its top. The large middle disc is divided into quadrants by a cross. Each quadrant contains two anther lobes and is edged with filaments.
Size: max. 26.3 × 17.0 × 7.0 cm.
No. So IV 1. FS. 6 III 12.3/Cb 6.2, H. 15.11 m.

47. Cross-bar.
From a staircase railing as no. 46.
Side A
Medallion with a lotus corolla of twelve petals alternating with groups of three sepals, one large, two small. The petals are pointed and marked with a three-rayed notch. The raised gynoecium is encircled by a ring of twenty-four anther lobes. Two of the spandrels of the medallion are filled with a lotus bud.
Side B
Twelve-petalled corollar of lotus petals alternating with sepals. The long round petals show a middle rib. The androecium consists of twenty-seven anther lobes arranged round the raised gynoecium.
Size: max.27.0 × 19.0 × 5.0 cm.
No. So IV 30. FS. 6 III 6.9/Cc 8.6, H. 15.40 m.

48. Cross-bar.
Completely plain cross-bar from a spot north-east of the apsidal temple.
Size: max. 30.3 × 18.0 × 4.8 cm.
No. So IV 285. FS. 6 IV 12.94/Cc 19.70, H. 15.15 m.

49. Cross-bar.
Another completely plain cross-bar from the same spot as no. 48.
Size: max. 30.5 × 18.5 × 4.8 cm.
No. So IV 308. FS. 6 IV 12.45/Cc 20.00, H. 15.05 m.
Note: Three more fragmentary plain cross-bars from the same special find spot in 6 IV/Cc, registered under So IV 286–288.

3) Coping-stones

The altogether eight fragments of coping-stones recovered at Sonkh are of two different shapes and patterns. With the exception of no. 51, which is a surface find, the pieces have been found to the north and east of the excavated area. The find-spots do not help to determine the course of the railing in this region, but there is ample reason to believe that nos. 52 and 53 were lying nearly in situ as part of the northernmost line of the enclosure.

50. Coping-stone showing a slightly rounded broad top projecting over the narrower lower tier. Both sides are carved with the same design. Above stretches a long sectioned pole from which six bells alternating with *śaṅkhas* are hanging down. The lower edge of this tier is marked with two incised horizontal lines.
Below, a lotus creeper is twining along floral and symbolic patterns.
In the bottom of the stone are three mortise holes, each measuring ca 9.5 × 7.0 × 4.3 cm, placed between ca 24.5 and 29.0 cm apart.
Size: max. L.116.5 cm. H. 23.0 cm. Depth of upper tier 23.0 cm, lower tier 17.0 cm.
No. So IV 191. FS. 6 IV 2.68/Cd 4.30, H. 14.86 m.

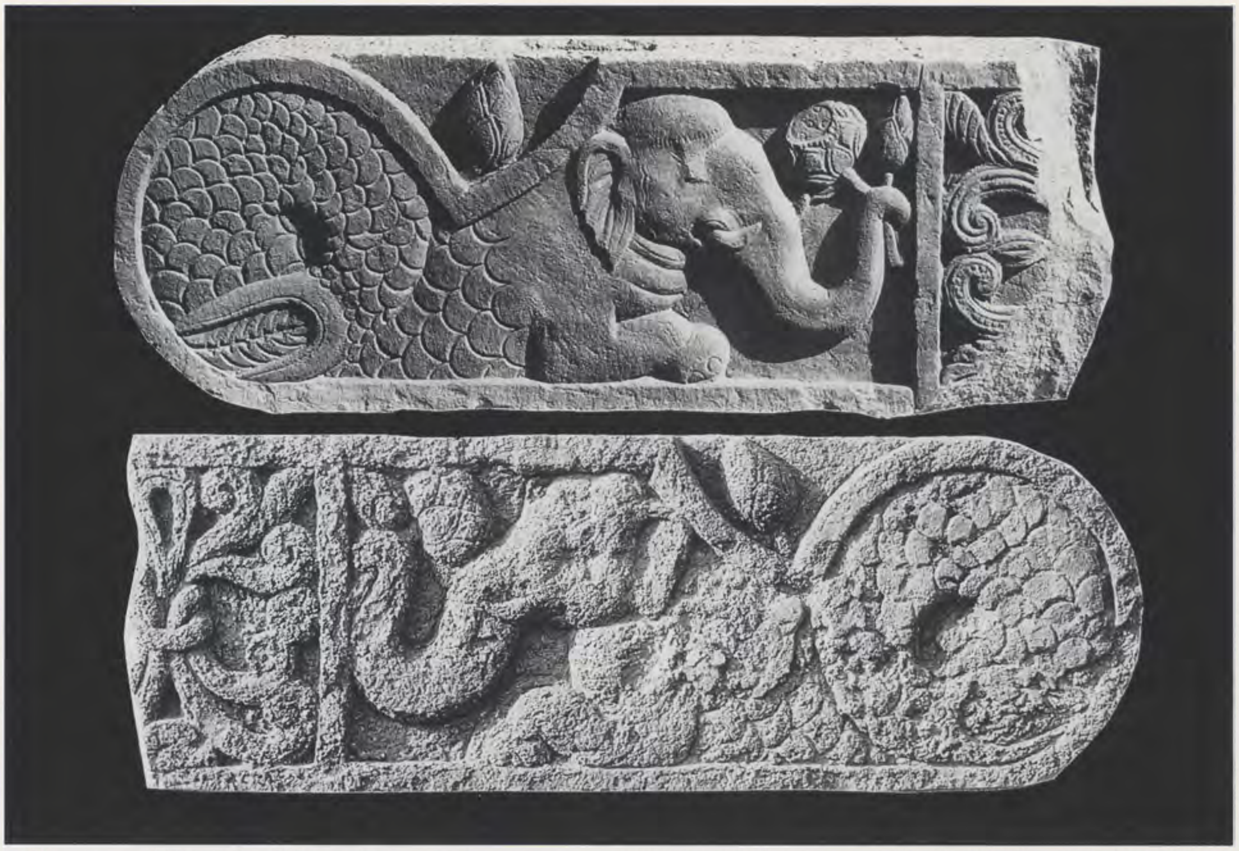
51. Fragment of a coping-stone of exactly the same type and pattern but split off lengthwise. Remains of four mortise holes at the bottom.
Size: max. L.84.0 cm. H. 23.0 cm. D. 11.0 cm.
No. So IV 65. Surface find.

52. Fragment of a coping-stone of the same type and pattern as nos. 50 and 51. On one end a 6.5 cm long tenon is sticking out.
Size: max. L.63.0 cm. H. 22.5 cm. D. 18.0 cm.
No. So IV 66. FS. 6 IV 15.3/Cc 6.2, H. 15.65 m.
Note: One more small fragment of same type of coping-stone, found at 6 IV 3.98/Cc 17.32, H. 14.86 m, registered as So IV 226.

53. Long coping-stone in the shape of an upside down U in section. Plain rounded top over a flatly carved three-stepped decoration consisting of 1) a sectioned string, 2) a long row of vertically arranged thin anther lobes and, 3) a band of lotus petals, again vertical, alternating with three sepals, one long, two small. The petals are marked with an incised middle rib and a borderline.
The bottom of the stone shows four mortise holes measuring between 6 × 6 and 14 × 6 cm, having a depth of 3.0 to 4.0 cm.
Size: max. L.153.0 cm. H. 22.0 cm. D. 15.5 cm.
No. So IV 67. FS. 6 IV 15.7/Cc 6.9, H. 15.53 m.

54. Fragment of a coping-stone of the same type and decorative pattern as no. 53. On one side, most of this decoration is broken off.
At the bottom, one mortise hole of 9.0 × 6.5 × 3.5 cm is indented.
Size: max. L. 56.0 cm. H. 22.0 cm. D. 16.0 cm.
No. So IV 190. FS. 6 IV 3.60/Cc 6.57, H. 15.26 m.

55. Small fragment of a coping-stone showing the decorative pattern as nos. 53 and 54.
Size: 14.5 × 12.0 × 3.5 cm.
No. So IV 46. FS. 6 IV 16.8/Cc 9.4, H. 15.45 m.
Note: One more small fragment of same type of coping-stone, found at 6 IV 17.3/Cc 8.4, H. 15.35 m, registered as So III 47.



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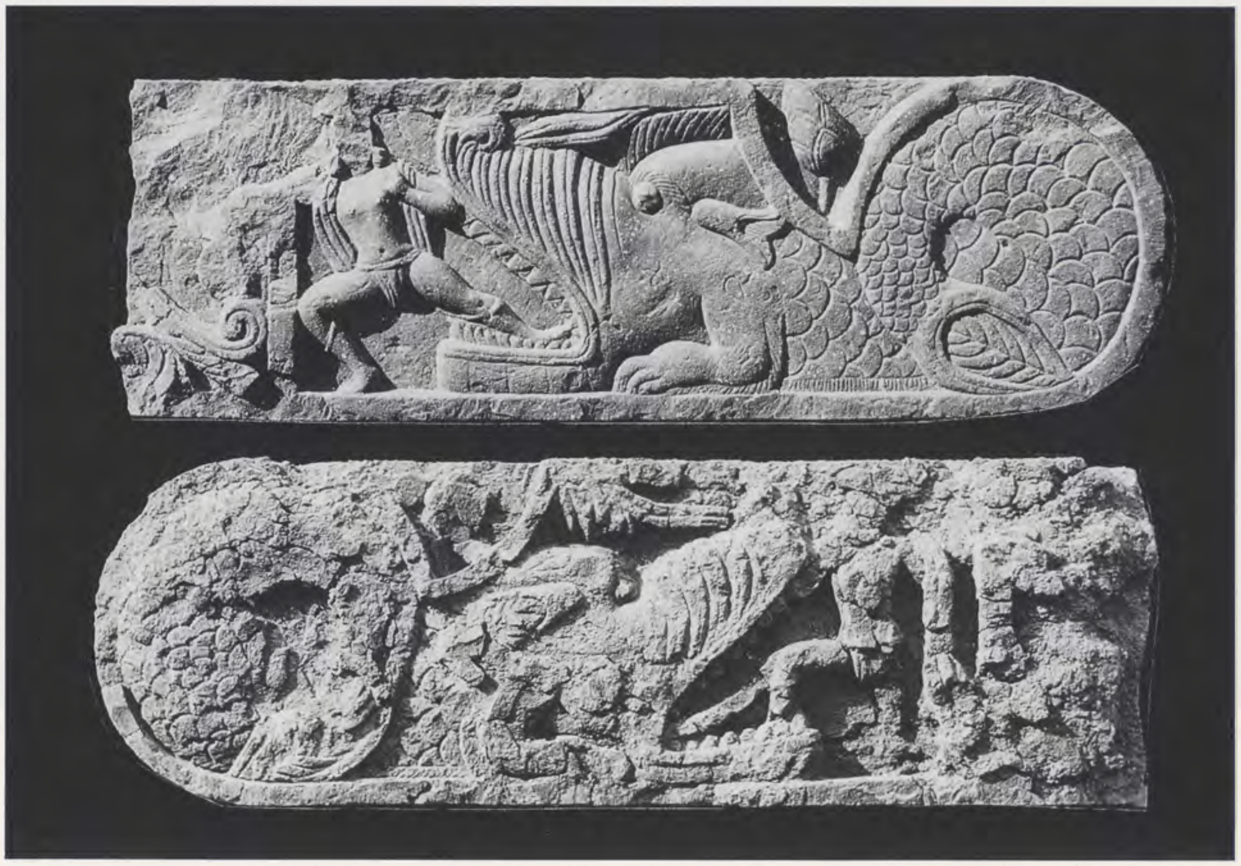

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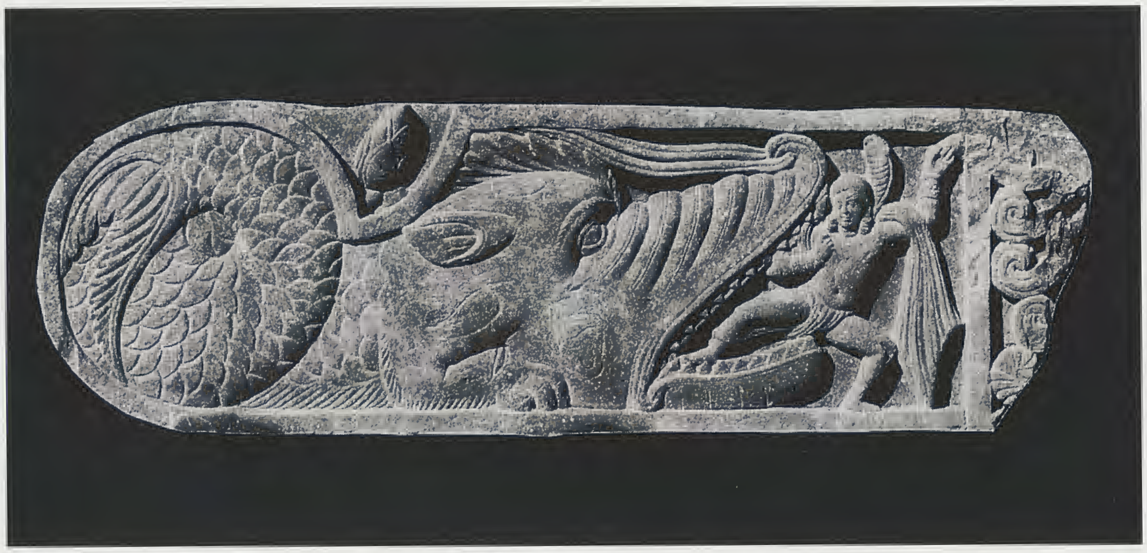

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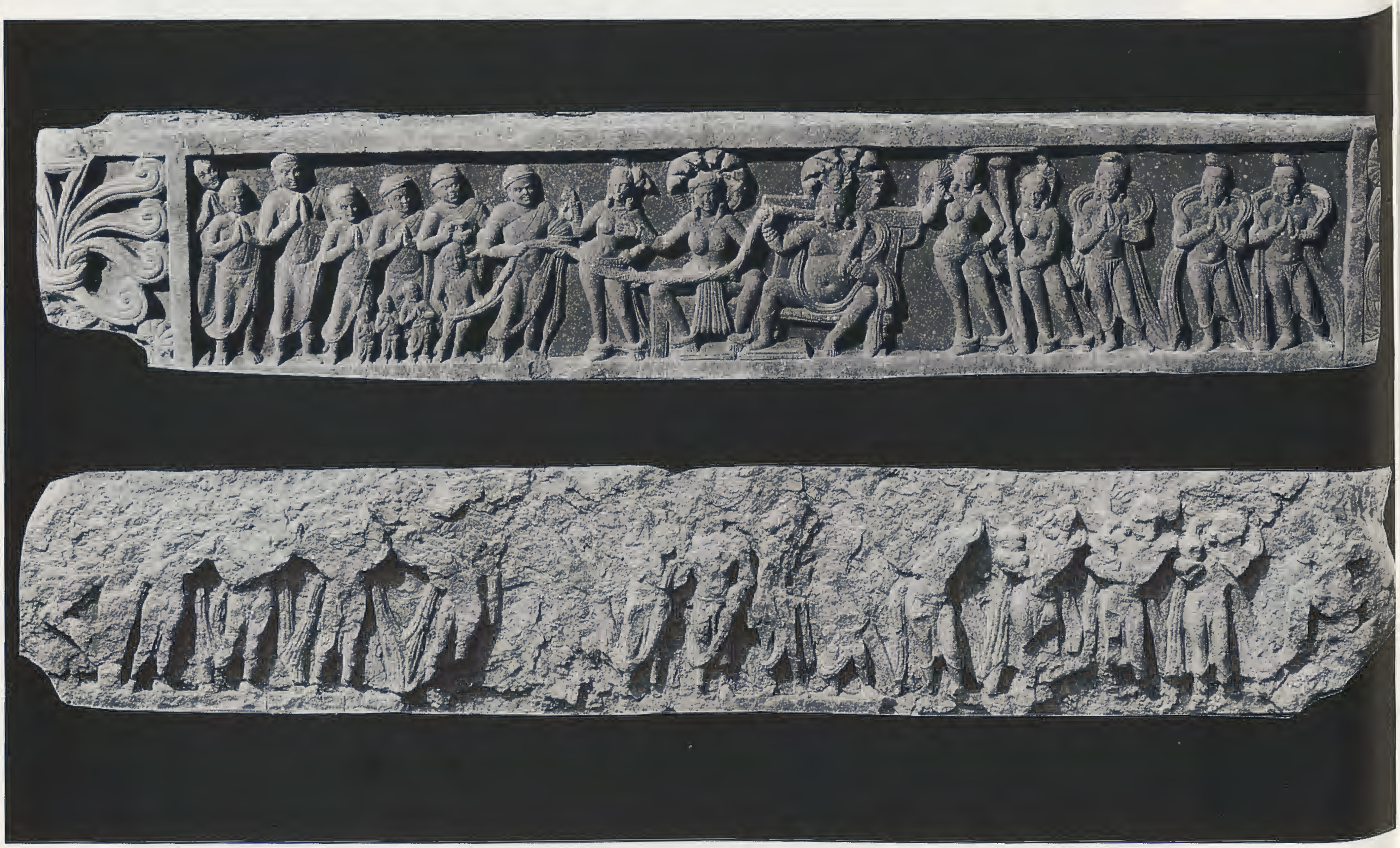

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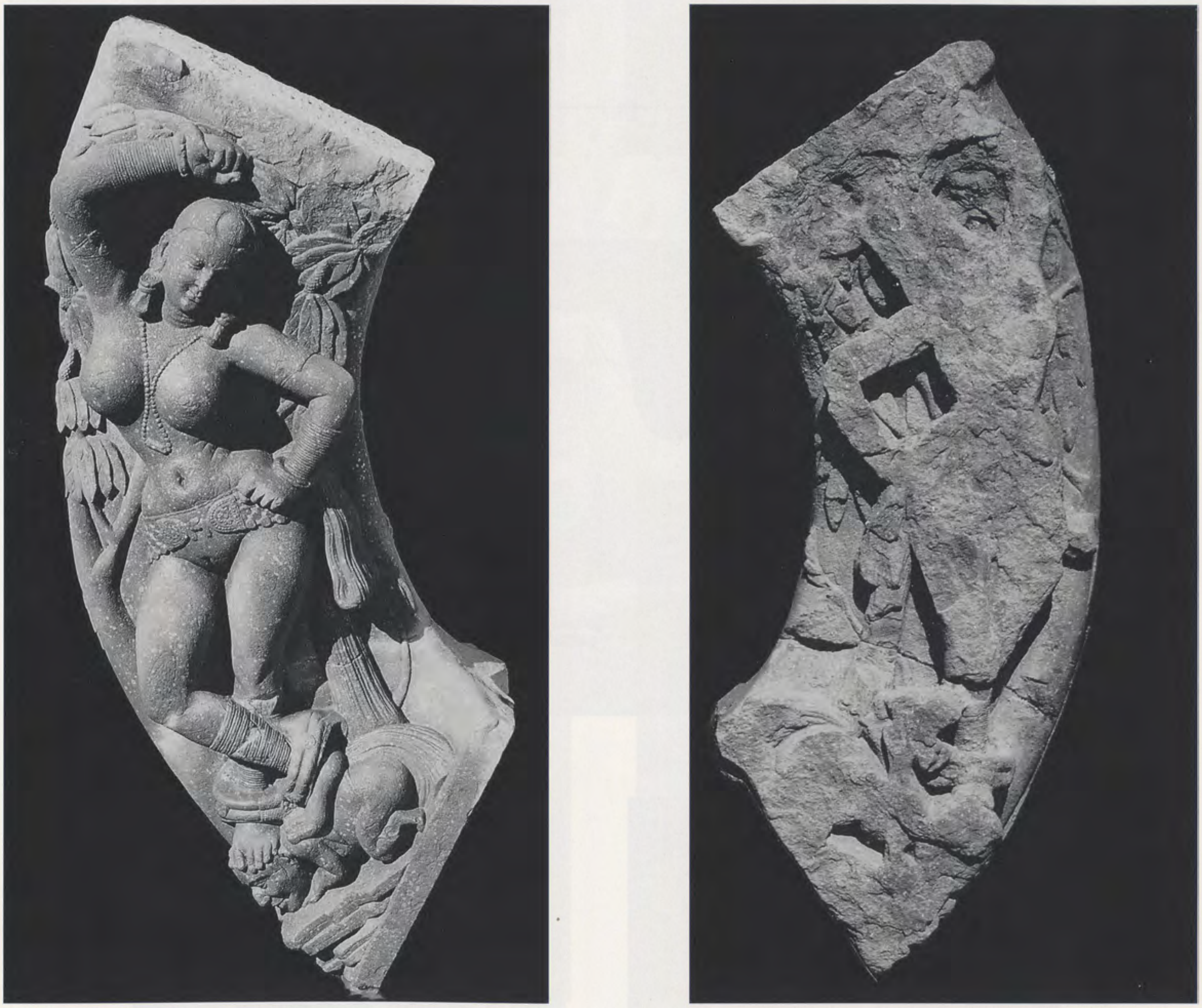

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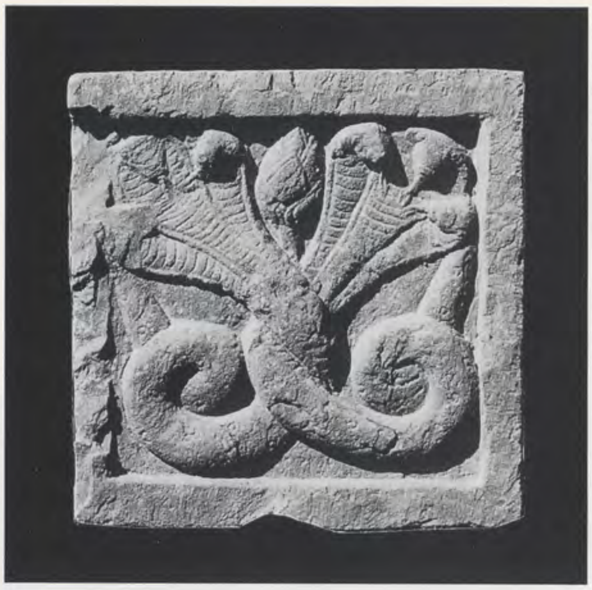

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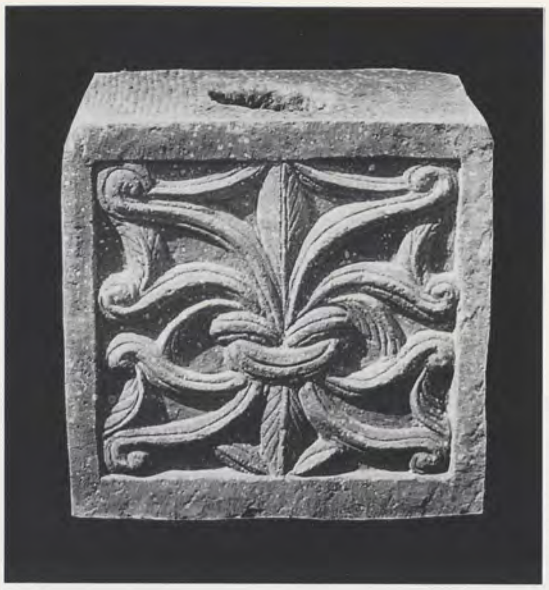

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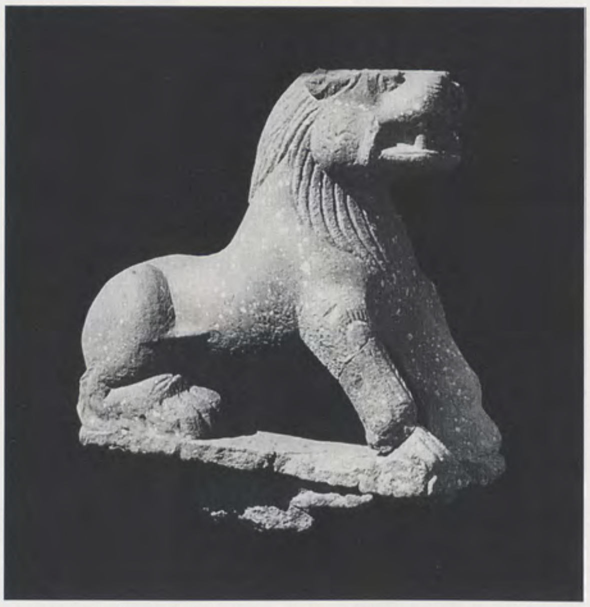

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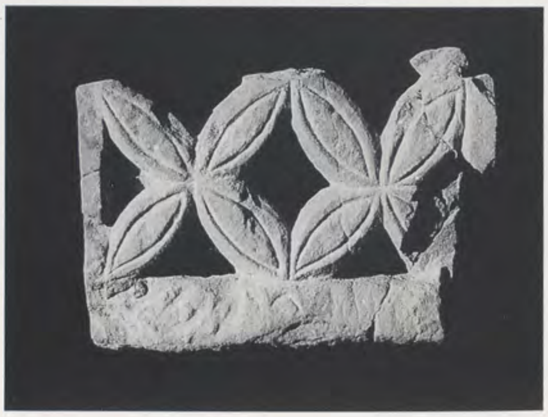

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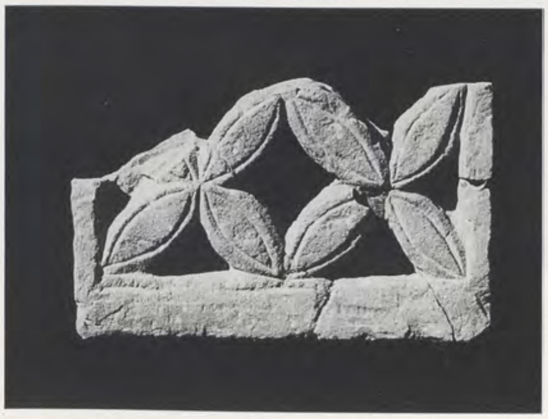

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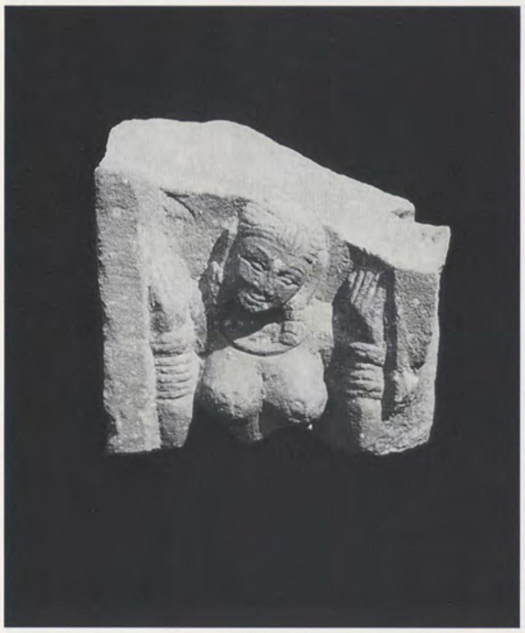
Sculptures of the Gate



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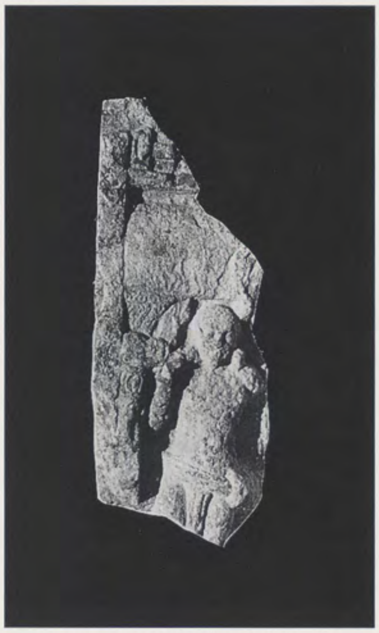

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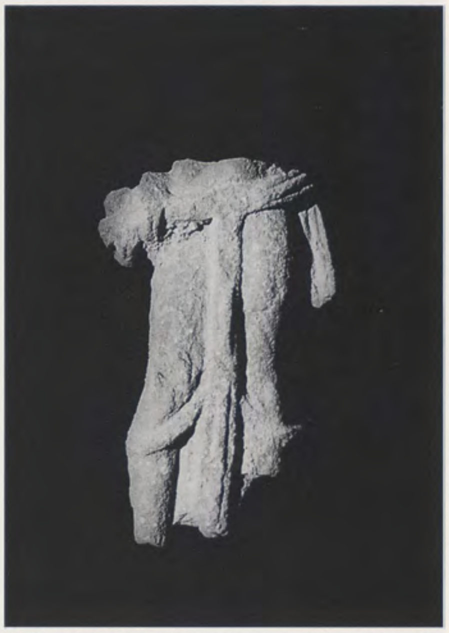

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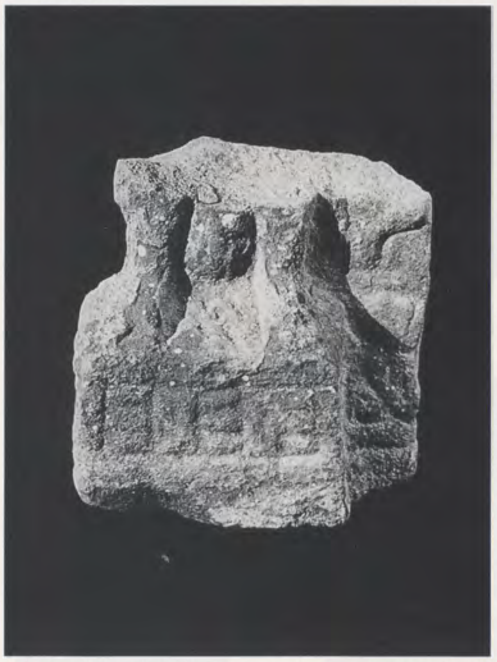

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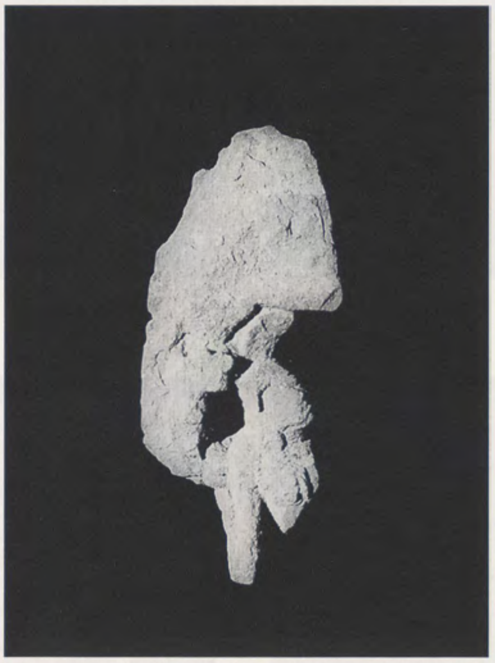

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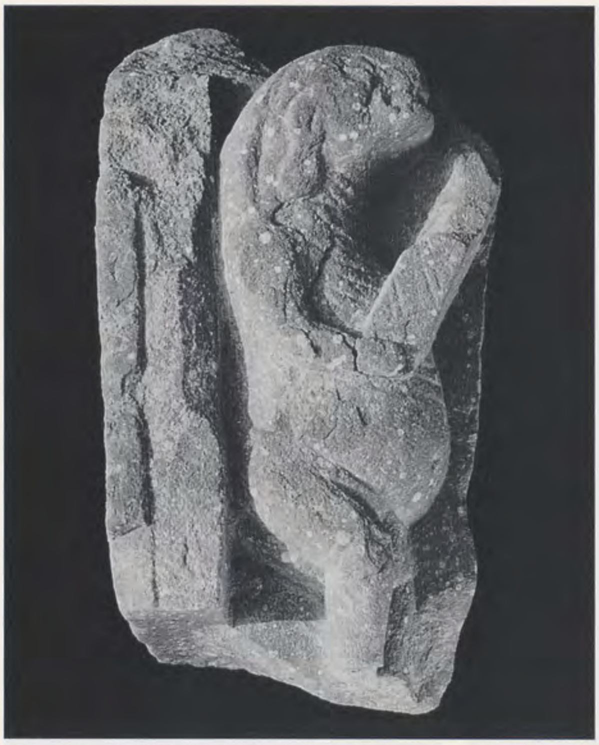

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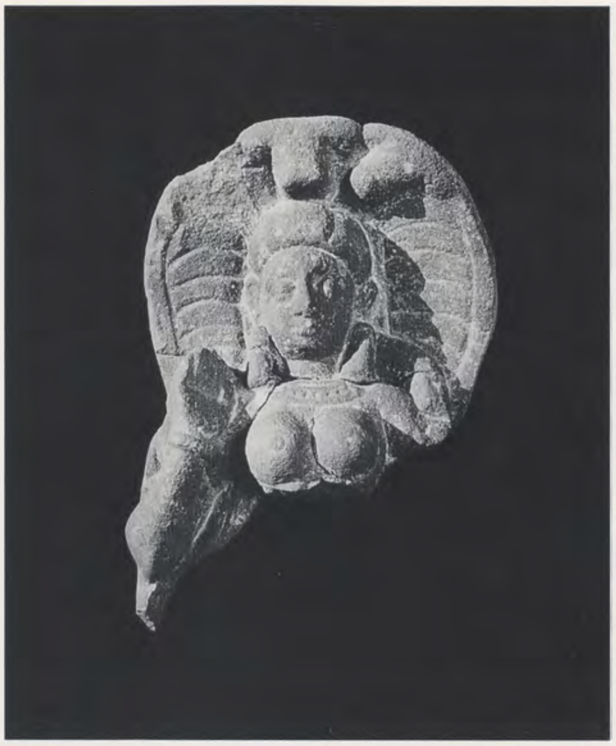

17

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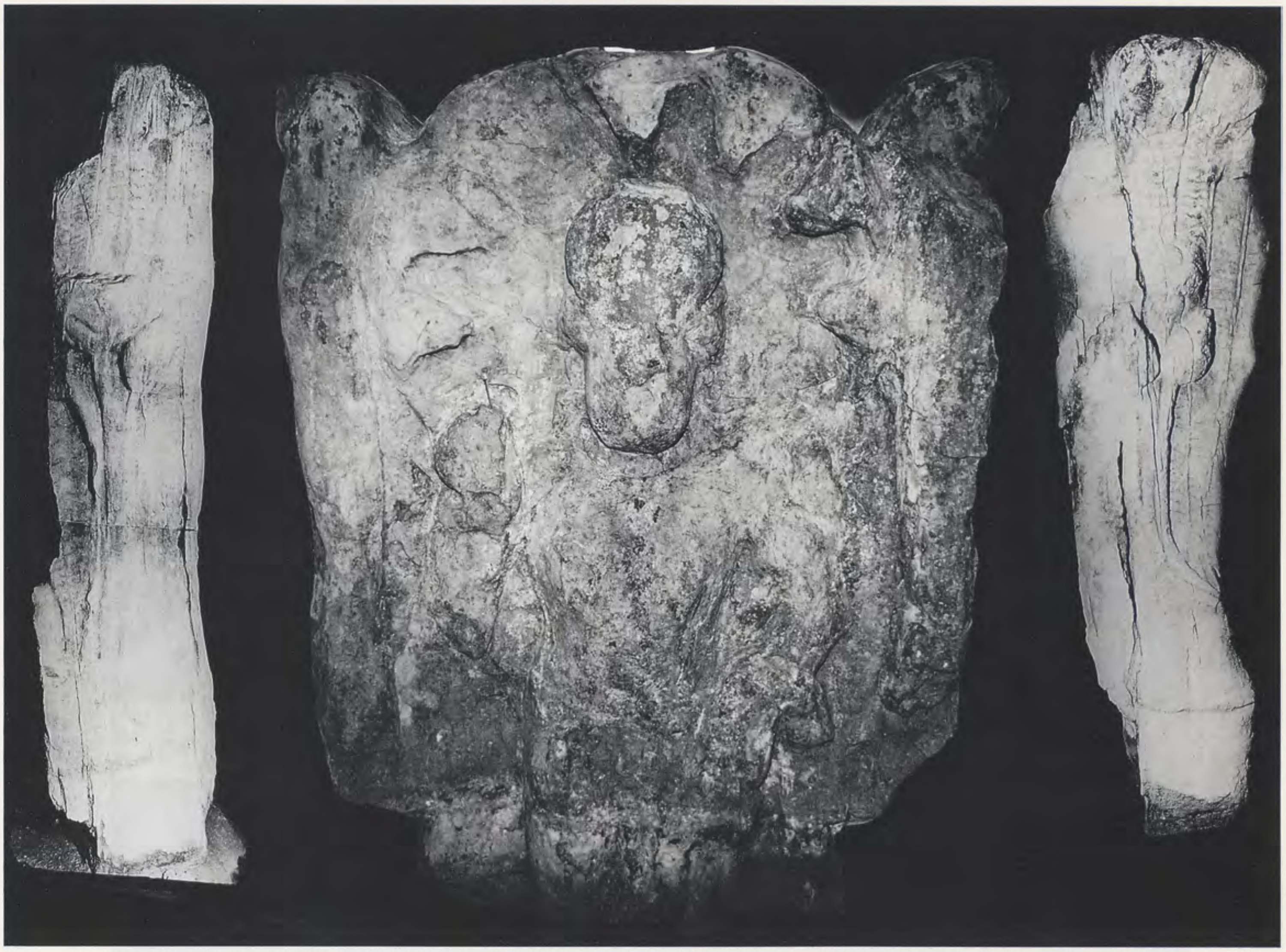
20a

20b



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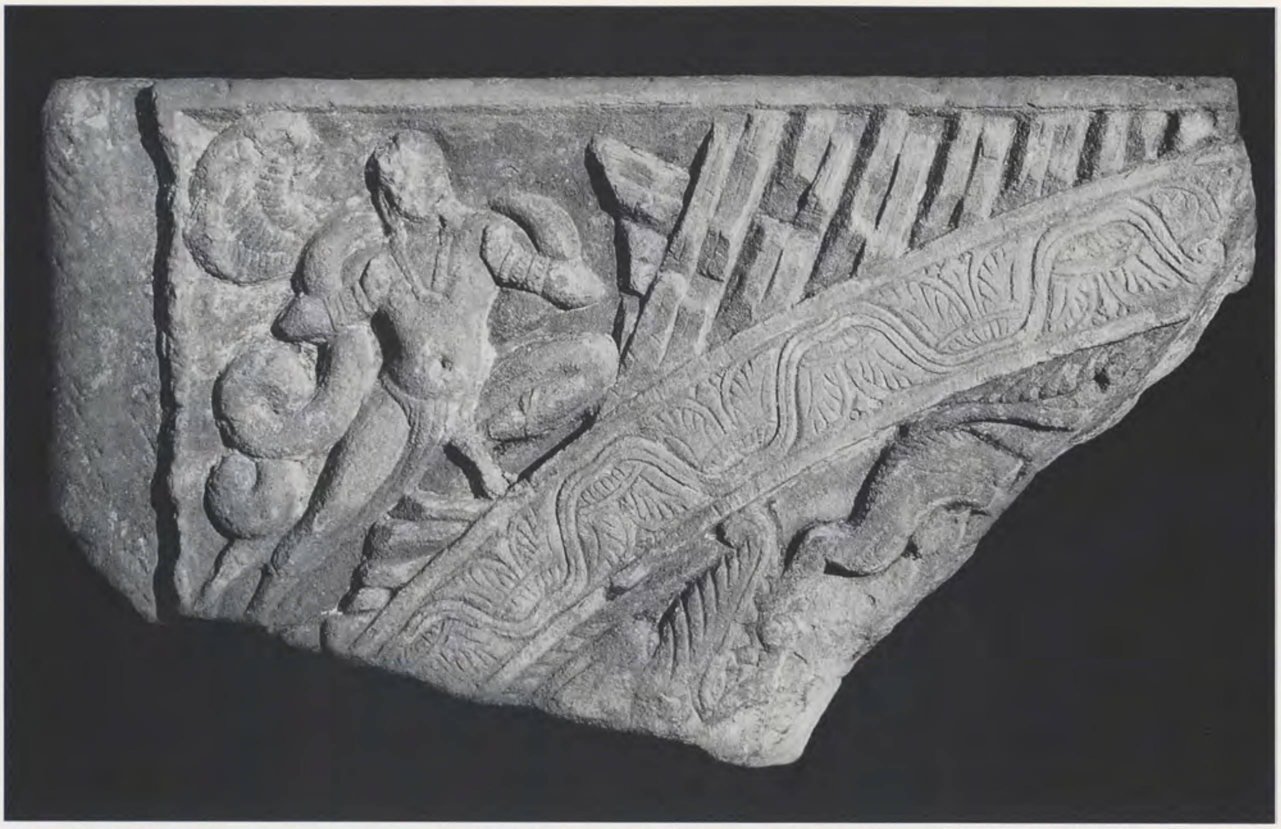

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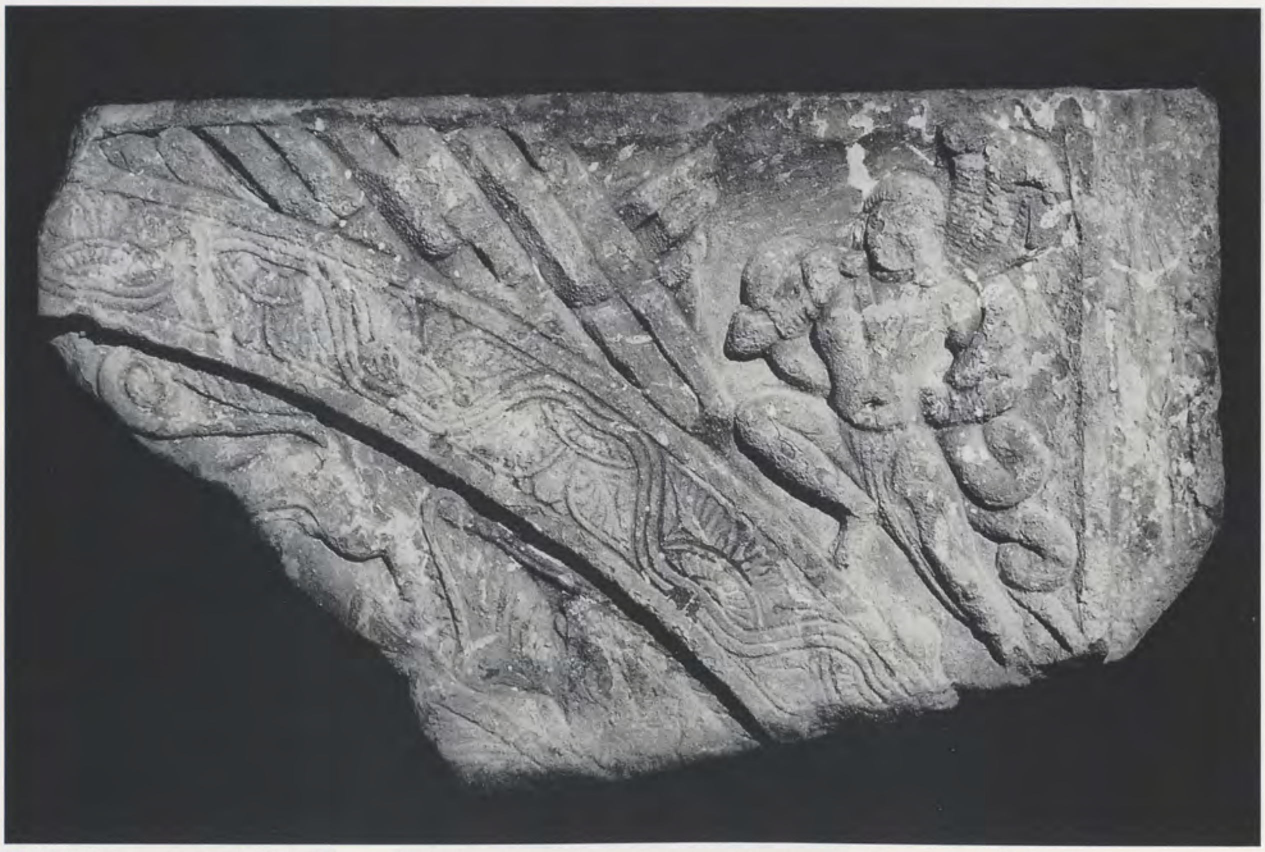

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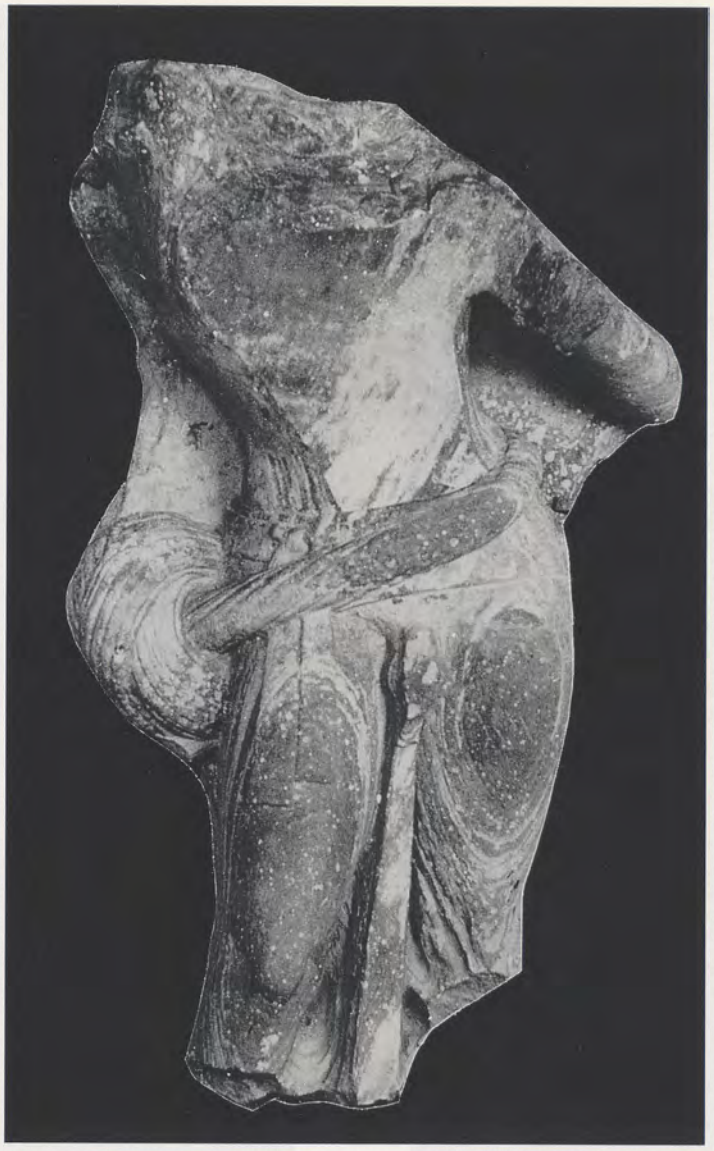

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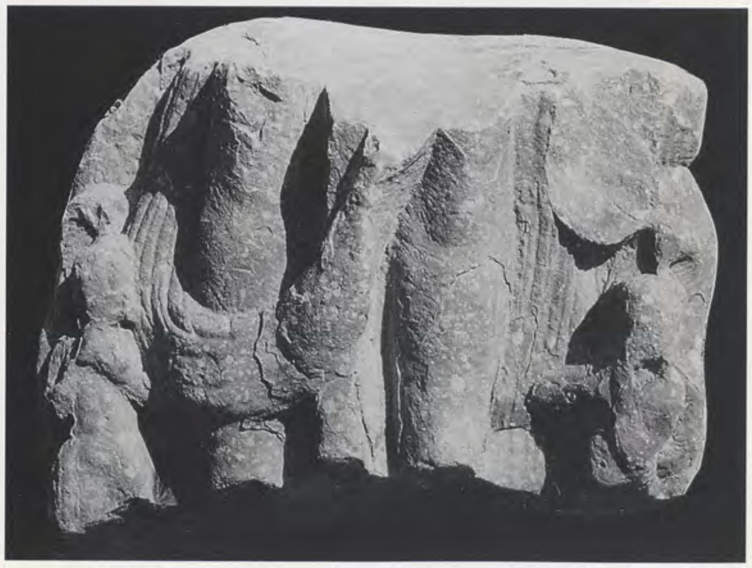

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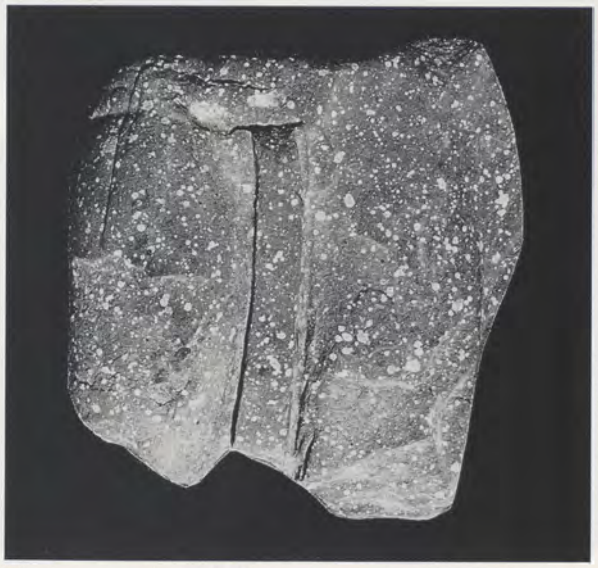
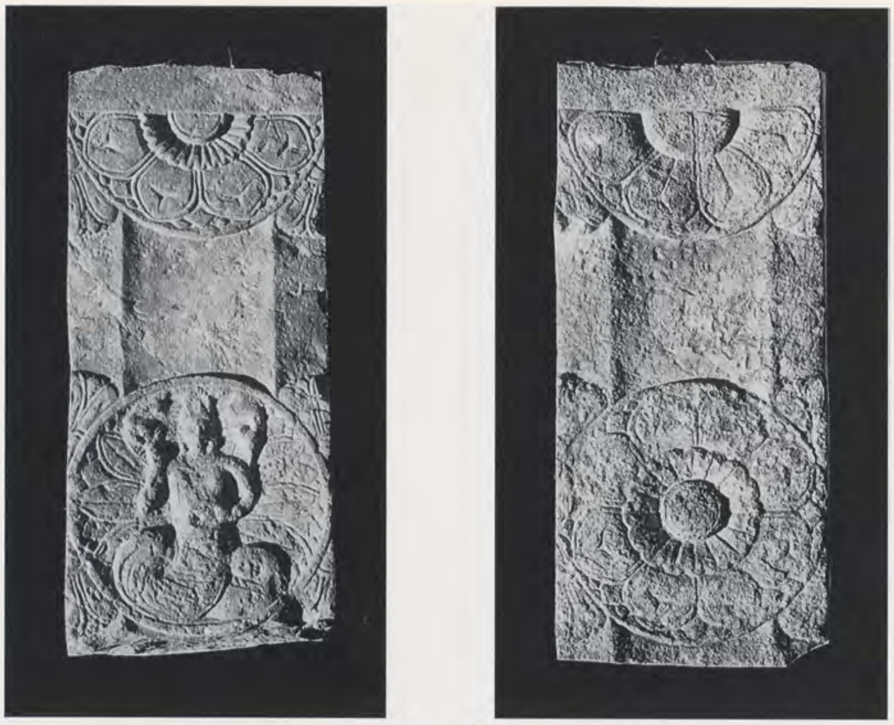


26

Miscellaneous Stone Sculptures



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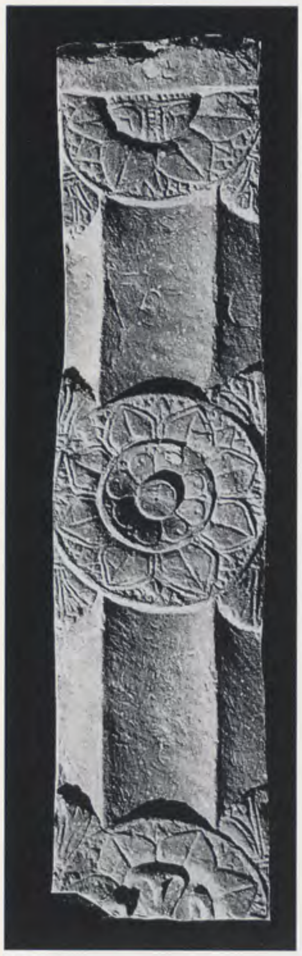

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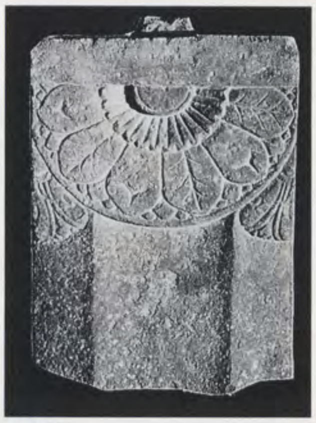

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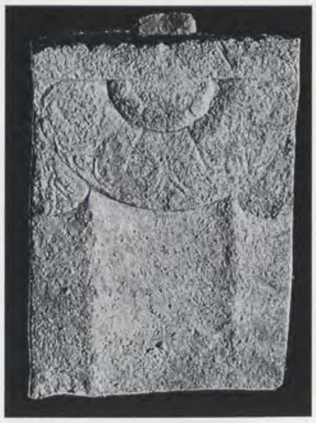

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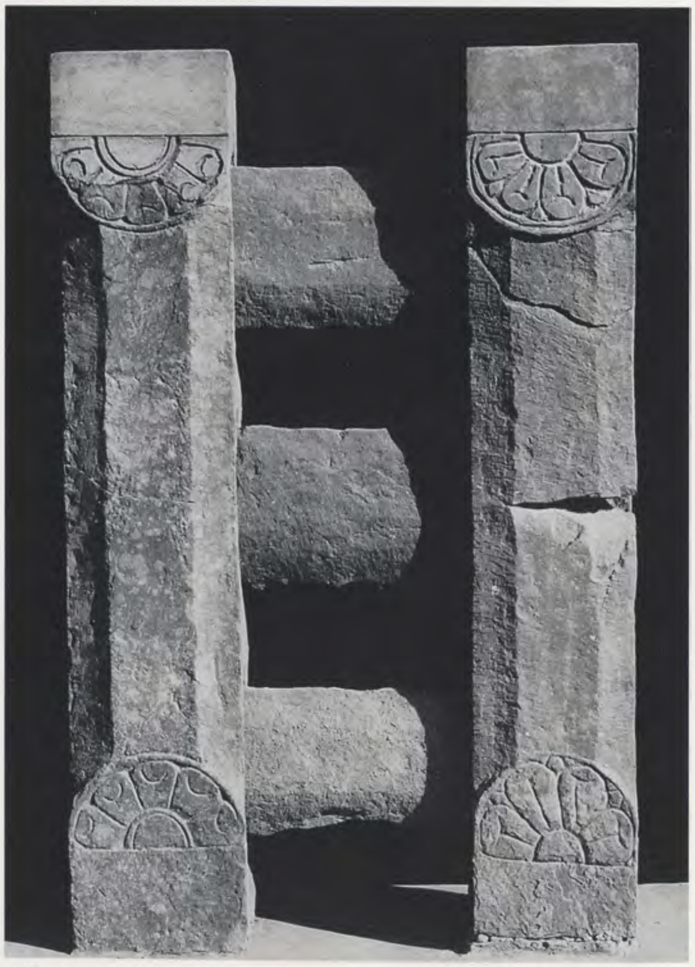
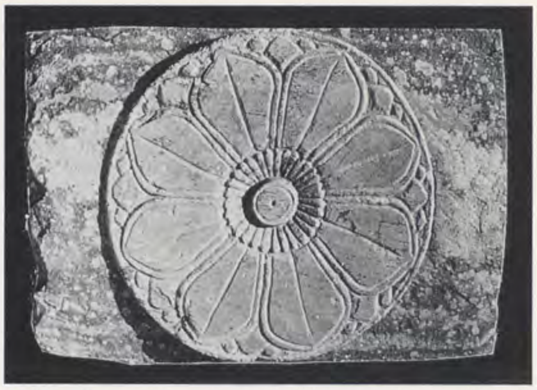


30

Sculptures of the Railing: Pillars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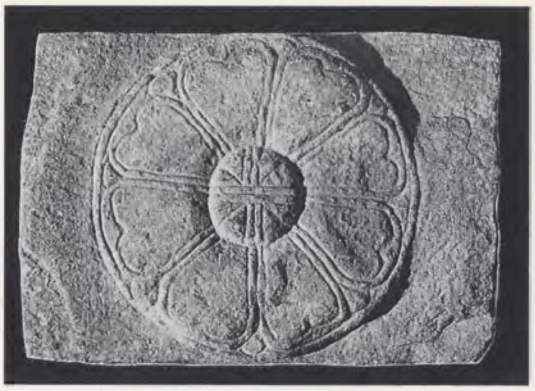
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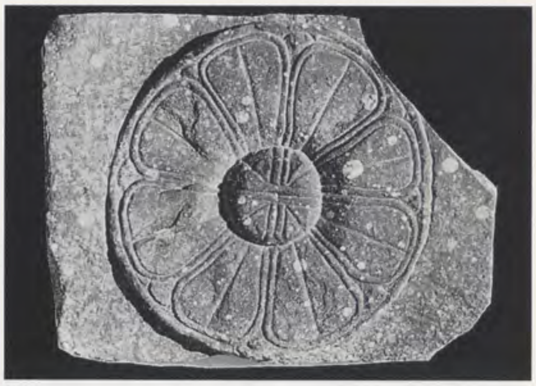
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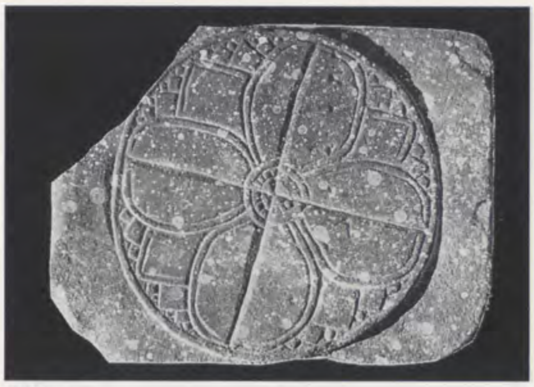
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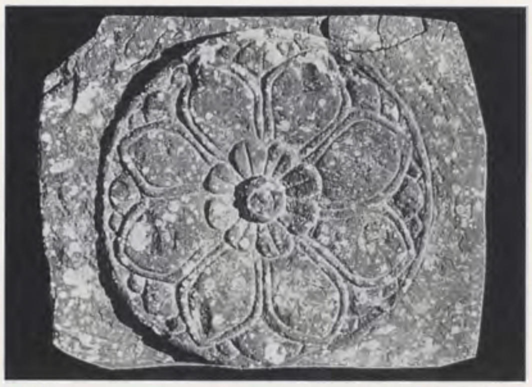
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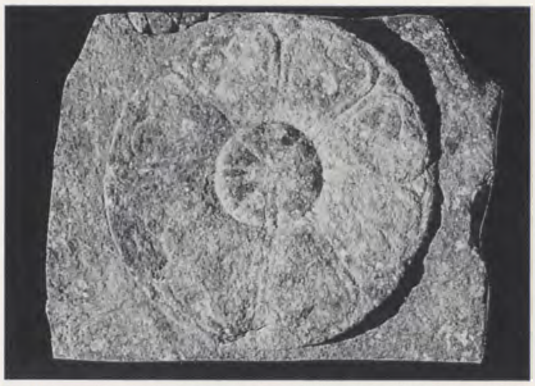
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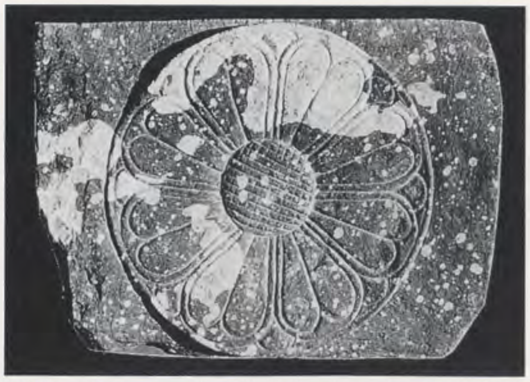
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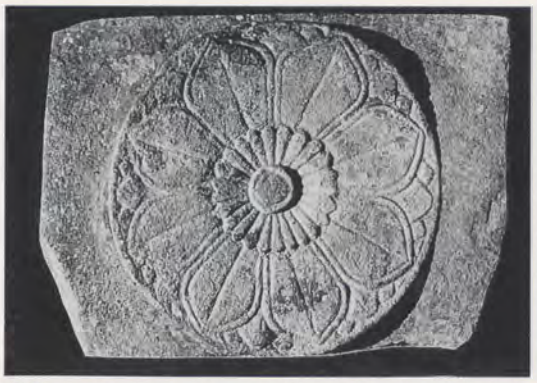
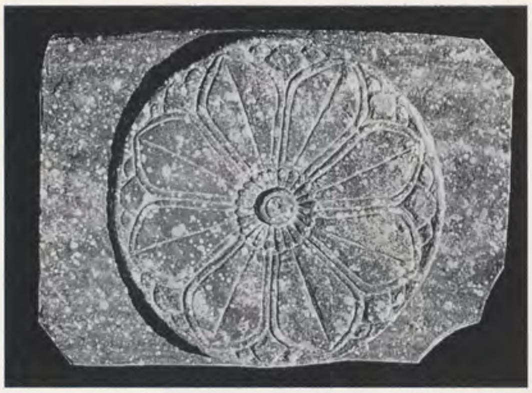

34B

Sculptures of the Railing: Cross-bars



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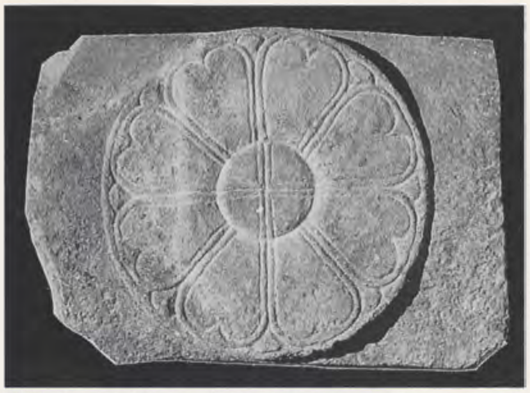

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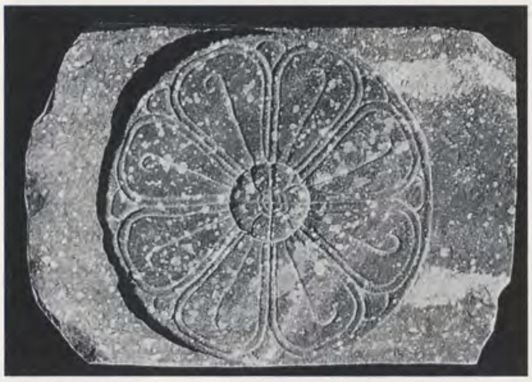

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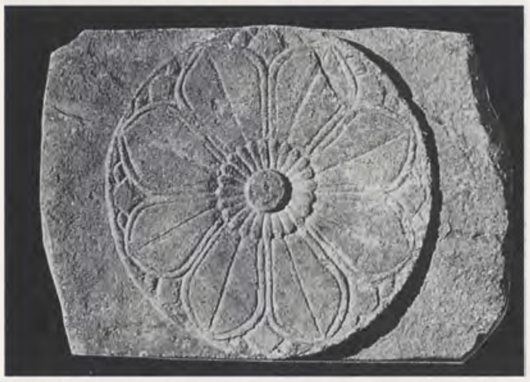

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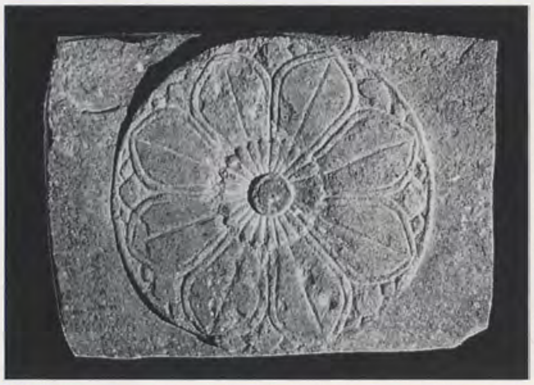

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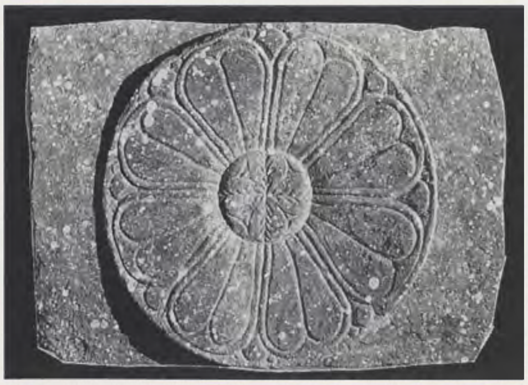

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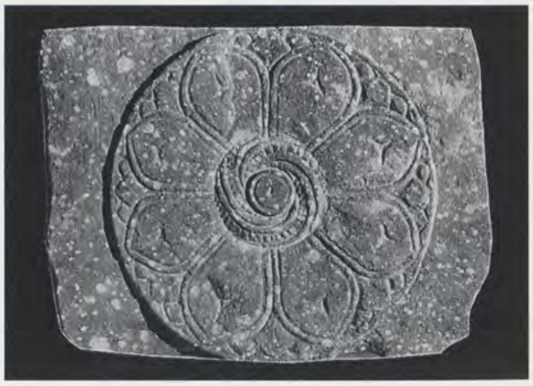

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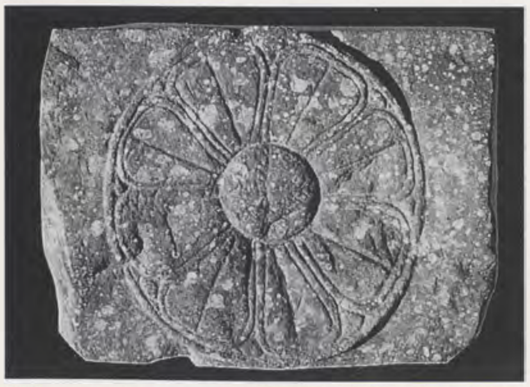

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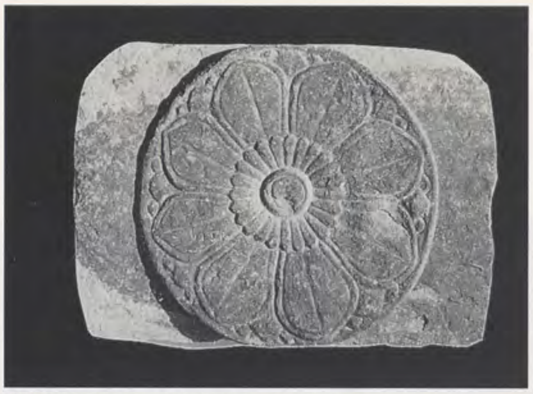
Sculptures of the Railing: Cross-bars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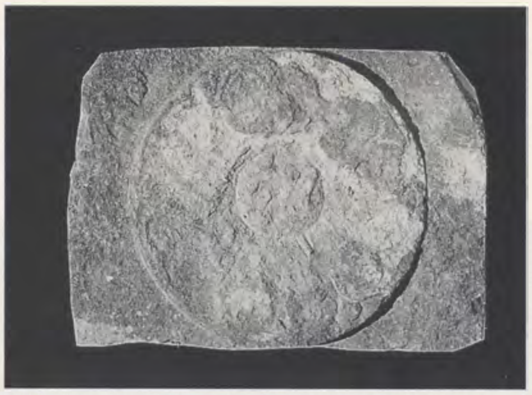
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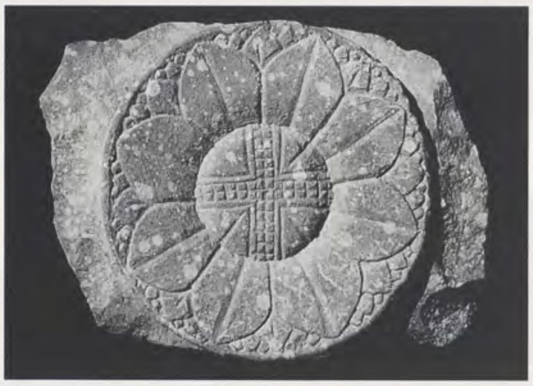
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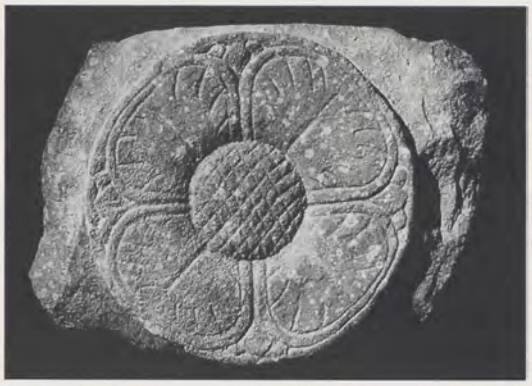
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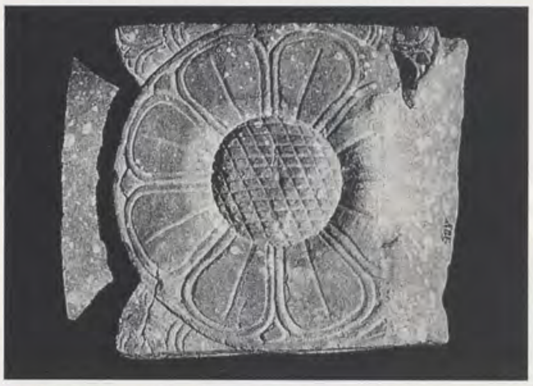
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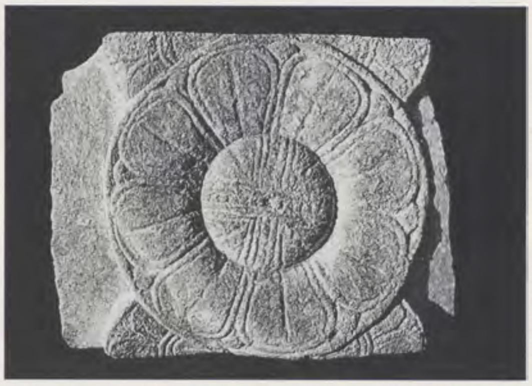
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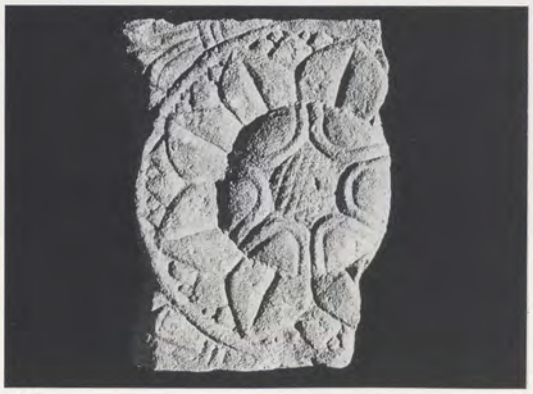
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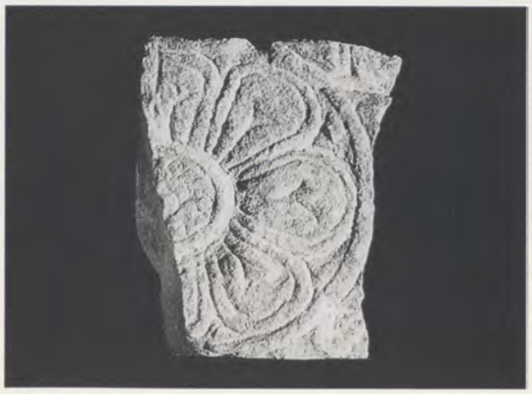
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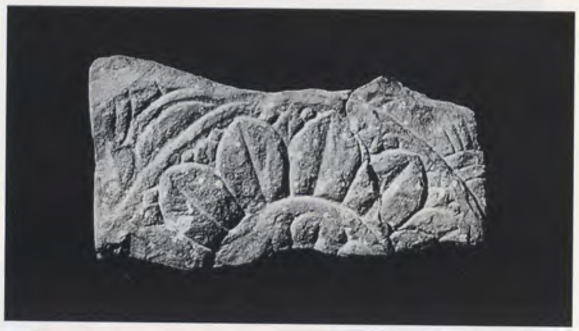
Sculptures of the Railing: Cross-bars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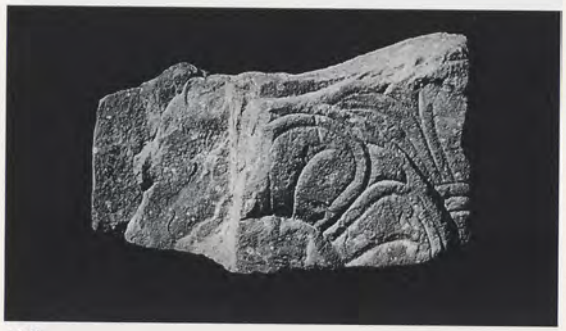
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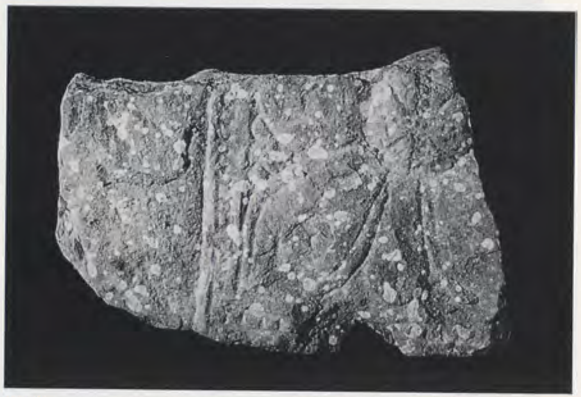
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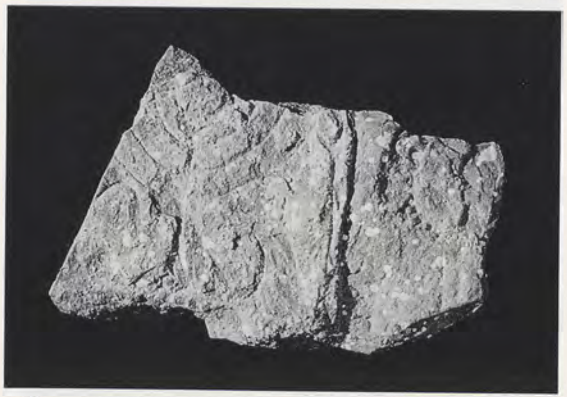
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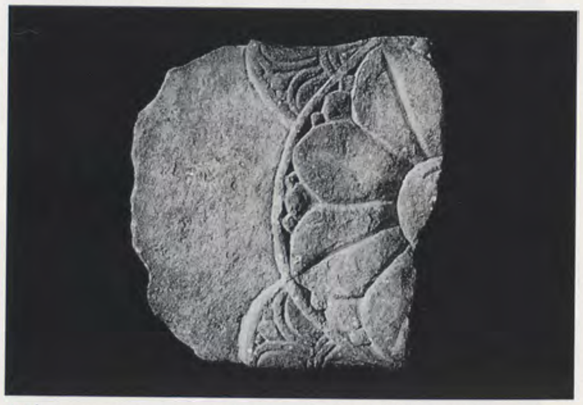
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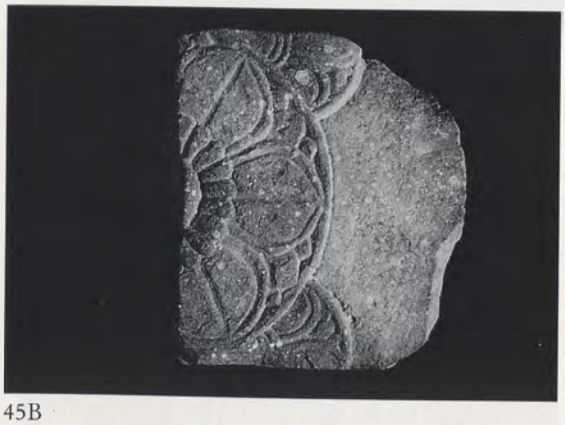
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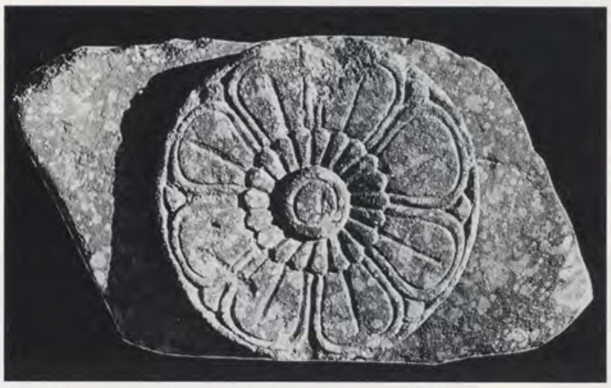
Sculptures of the Railing: Cross-bars



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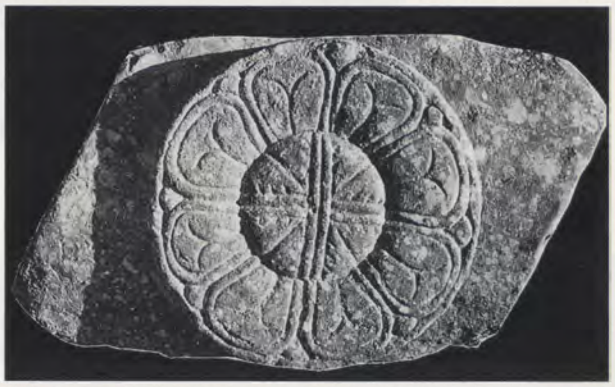

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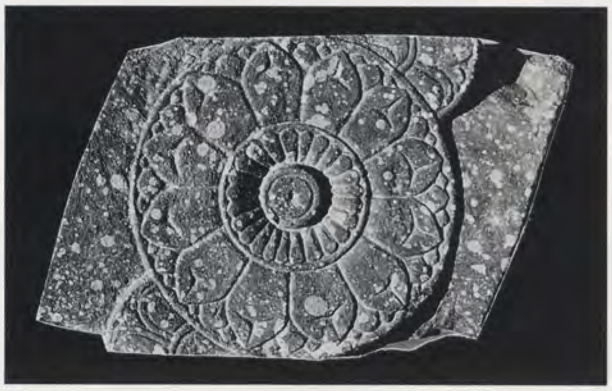

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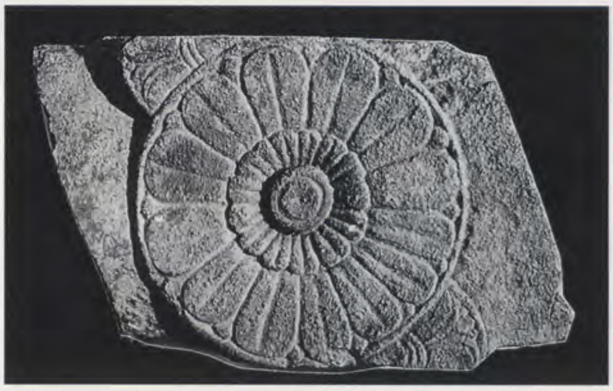

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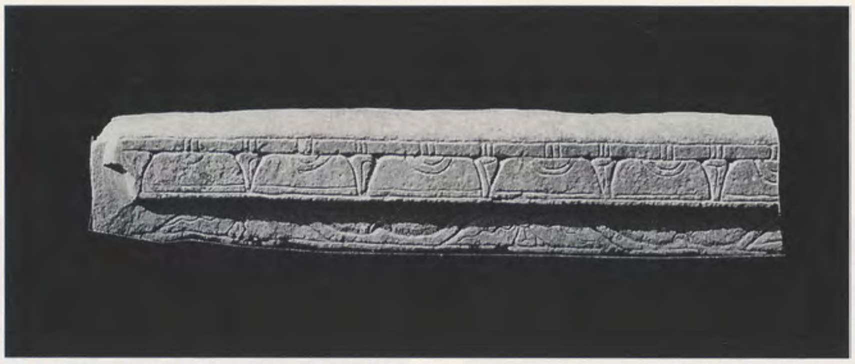
Sculptures of the Railing: Cross-bars



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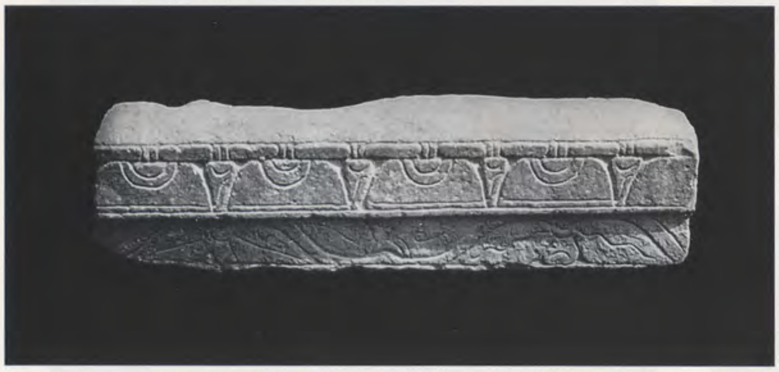

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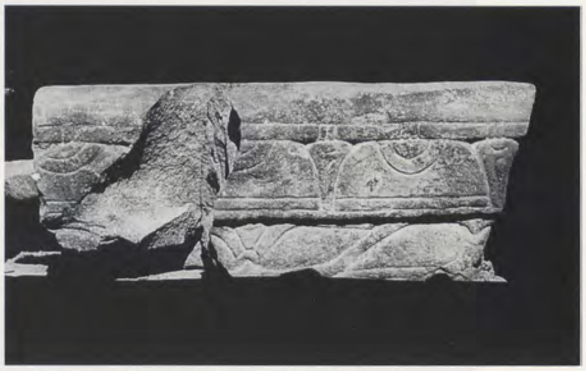

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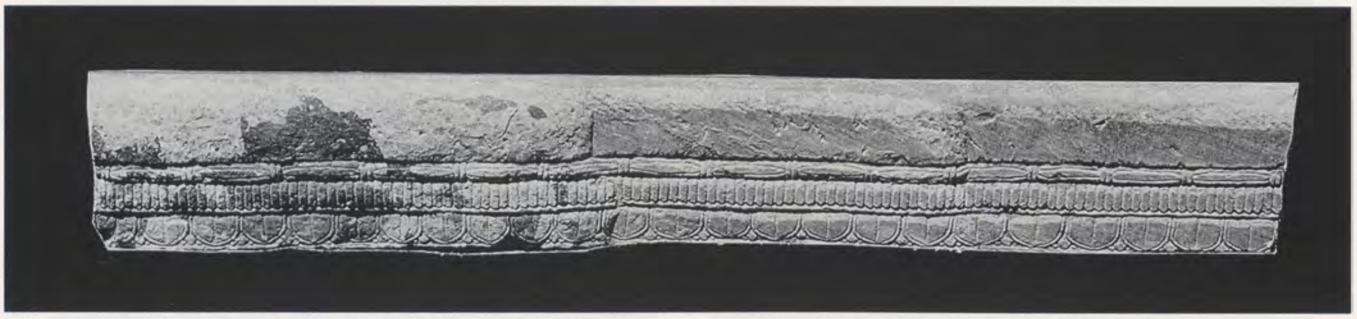

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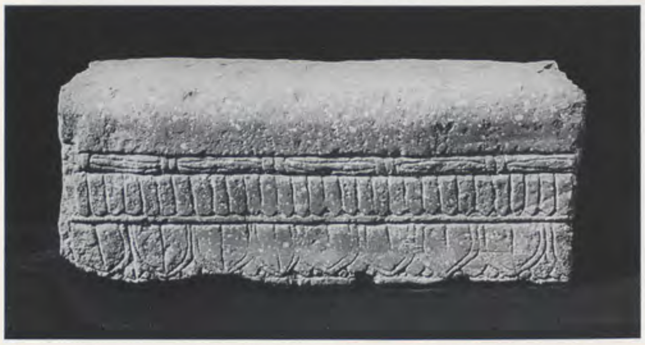

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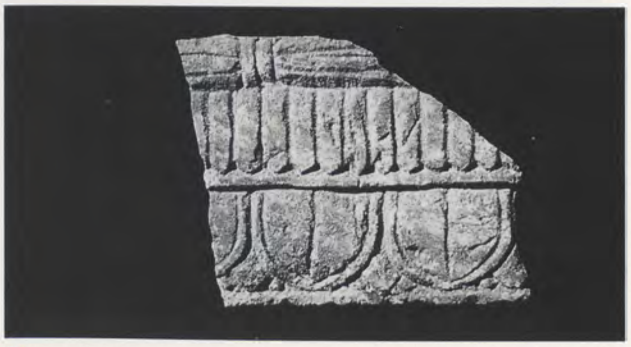

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Sculptures of the Railing: Coping stones

D. TERRACOTTA MOULDS AND FIGURINES

1) Human figures

1. Clay mould, taken from the group of children in the relief of the middle lintel of the bottom architrave (Sculptures, no. 4). The mould is made of clay, probably sun-dried but rather hard. It shows one male figure with the hands in añjali in the centre and parts of the bodies of two other figures, one on each side. Although the scene is incomplete, the mould is not a fragment. Quite intentionally it contains a detail only of a larger composition. The clay impression, newly made from the mould, shows that the three figures are of different height, increasing from the left to the right. In fact, the mould reflects a part of the group of children in the stone relief mentioned above, from which it has been directly taken in the Kuṣāṇa period, when the gate was still in use. The central figure of the mould is the second child from the right in the group, the arm and leg of the right figure is of the tallest boy, the left figure is identical with the second boy from the left.
The size of the figures in it is exactly the same as that of the figures in the stone relief. In the background, the dhotī of the third man of the delegation is visible.
Size: H. 9.4 cm. B. 5.6 cm. D. 2.0 cm. Colour: grey.
No. So IV 206. FS. 6 IV 4.78/Cc 11.65, H. 14.95 m.

2. Clay mould, taken from the group of children in the relief of the middle bottom architrave of the gate. The mould is made in the same way as no. 1. It contains the figures of the three smaller children of the group of four in the stone relief, leaving out the tallest boy. At the bottom, the plain frame of the relief serves as the footing for the figures in the terracotta reproduction. The size of the children is again the same as in the stone, and the "footing"-part is of the height of the original frame.
Size: H. 9.5 cm. B. 7.2 cm. D. 1.6 cm.
No. So IV 423. FS. 6 IV 4.10/Cc 10.16, H. 15.35 m.

3. Original terracotta plaque from a mould similar to nos. 1 and 2. Fragmentary brownish plaque, found in the pottery deposit in 6 IV/Cc, i.e. the find-place of the two moulds described above. The plaque is of a rough texture and in a bad state of preservation. Even so, the three figures of the group of four children can be easily identified with those in the mould no. 2, although the plaque may not necessarily be produced from it. Since two moulds of the children-group have been found, there might have existed several more. Again, the figures in the terracotta plaque are of the same size as those in the stone relief.
Size: H. 6.3 cm. B. 6.4 cm. D. 1.9 cm .
No. So IV 330. FS. 6 IV 3.6/Cc 11.6, H. 14.74 m.

4. Clay mould, presumably taken from the reverse relief of the middle lintel of the bottom architrave (Sculptures, no. 4) The mould is made of greyish clay, sun-dried but rather hard. The newly made cast shows the head and breast of a male figure. The beautifully modelled face livens up through the vivid expression of the wide eyes and parted lips. The slightly left turned head is covered by spiral hair, the ear-lobes are carrying heavy pendants. A single pearl necklace (*ekāvalī*) is placed around the neck. To the left, two or rather three cobra heads are visible. Although the upper part of the hood is not included in the mould, the final number of snakes was in all probability seven. Apparently, this figure represents a Nāgarāja. Since the mould has been found in the same place with the others (nos. 1–2), it might not be impossible that this head had also been taken from the bottom lintel of the gate, i.e. from the badly preserved *reverse* (no. 4). If so, it could have belonged only to the central Nāga figure. The head is 3.4 cm high, and that is exactly the size of that of the Nāgarāja (without diadem) and his female companion in the *obverse* relief.
Size: H. 6.3 cm. B. 6.1 c m. D. 2.6 cm.
No. So IV 422. FS. 6 IV 8.93/Cc 10.17, H. 14.69 m.

5. Small fragment of a mould made of greyish clay. Preserved is the left side of a sitting human body. The left arm is bent, its hand is turned into a fist and lying in height of the seat. In the background appear parts of the back of a throne-chair.
Size: H. 6.2 cm. B. 4.45 cm. D. 2.0 cm.
No. So IV 420. FS. 6 IV 5.22/Cc 10.14, H. 15.05 m.

6. Fragment of a hollow male head in typical Kuṣāṇa style. Nose and eyebrow are sharply impressed, the mouth stands slightly open. Pupil and iris are applied in shape of a small disc on the eyeball. In the long-drawn ear lobe hangs a tripartite ear-ring. Of the hair, only a few obliquely incised lines are preserved. From there, a sort of chin strap decorated with a rhomboid pattern is running around the face and chin.
This face most probably represents a Nāgarāja and was placed under a nāgahood like the one under no. 7. From the size of the face, it might even be part of exactly this hood. In any case, the complete figure, either standing or seated, must have been unusually tall for a terracotta image.
Size: H. 12.0 cm. B. 10.0 cm.
No. So IV 138. FS. 6 IV 0.7/Cc 15.0, H. 15.53 m.

7. Mutilated nāga-hood with the remains of seven cobra heads. The fairly preserved three heads show the mouths shooting forward and the eyes incised as rectangles with a disc. The skinfolds are given as horizontal strokes in the front of the hood, leaving the centre blank where, most probably, the face of a Nāgarāja was attached (see no. 6). On top of each cobra head *maṅgalas* like *nandyāvarta* and *svastika* are roughly incised.
At the lower end a tenon protrudes for the insertion into the body of the figure.
Size: Diameter 23.0 cm. D. max. 7.0 cm. Colour: brickred.
No. So IV 95. FS. 6 III 16.23/Cc 10.70, H. 14.88 m.
Note: One more small fragment of a similar hood with vestiges of black slip has been found at 6 V 5.25/Cc 11.87, H. 14.92 m, and is registered under So IV 325.

8. Hand holding a water vessel. The thumb, marked with its nail, presses against something that should be the opening of the vessel what obviously did not come off.
Judging from the other finds made at this very spot a hand with a vessel is most probably to identify as that of a standing Nāga.
Size: max. 8.7 × 3.2 × 4.0 cm. Colour: brick-red.
No. So IV 382. FS. 6 IV 12.16/Cb 19.95, H. 15.22 m.

9. Female head. The face has receding cheeks and a distinctly small mouth. The long nose joins at its root to the angular but unmarked eyebrows. The eyes are obliquely incised, the pupil is indicated by a prick. A plain ear-disc adorns the right ear. A vertically striped ribbon is laid along the forehead in the centre of which a round ornament is applied.
The stylistic features are those of the late Kṣatrapa period (cp. Part I, TERR.HUM.FIG.,nos. 86 ff.).
Size: H. 6.5 cm. Colour: red.
No. So IV 292. FS. 6 IV 11.7/Cc 13.26, H. 14.62 m.

10. Human head, presumably male. Sharp-cut face with deep-set eyes and thin-lipped mouth. The preserved left eye shows a protruding eyeball. Along the extremely narrow forehead lies a vertically striped ribbon which is part of a head-dress that covers the hair. The ears are mutilated.

Stylistically the head is of late Kṣatrapa origin.
Size: H. 7.3 cm. Colour: brick-red.
No. So IV 167. FS. 6 IV 7.4/Cc 12.0, H. 15.32 m.

11. Mutilated head of a human figure. The pupils of the prominent deep-set eyes are marked by large pricks in the eyeball. To the sides of an indistinct, applied mark above the nose runs a sharply incised brow-line (?) towards the ears now lost. Above the forehead are preserved traces of a decorated ribbon or some sort of a crown.
Stylistically the head belongs to the Early Kuṣāṇa period.
Size: H. 8.9 cm. Colour: red-brown.
No. So IV 328. FS. 6 IV 16.20/Cc 2.03, H. 14.95 m.

12. Seated Mother Goddess figure with a child. The bottle-shaped body is wheel-thrown, the extremities are applied. The round face shows a sharp-ridged nose, large impressed eyes with pricked eyeball, a thin-lipped mouth, and ears protruding sidewards, which are decorated with plain ear-discs. Upon the narrow forehead arises a band with vertically incised strokes, presumably indicating hair. A similarly striped necklace extends from shoulder to shoulder, resting on the breasts.
The elbow of the right arm rests on the right knee, the hand is raised with the palm turned inwards. In the left arm is placed a stiffly made child. Arms and legs are adorned with one bangle and anklet each. Between the crude legs a bowl for offerings is placed. The back is undecorated.
Size: H. 21.0 cm. Diam. 12.0 cm. Colour: red.
No. So IV 112. FS. 6 III 11.0/Cc 14.74, H. 14.80 m.

13. Boyish figure with hands on breast. The round face shows impressed eyes and pricked pupils, a strong nose with nostrils and sharp folds incised to the sides of the mouth. A broad collar stretches from shoulder to shoulder. Two bangles adorn the wrists. A girdle holds the short garment indicated by horizontally incised folds reaching from the hips to the knees. The diaphanous cloth can not hide the genitals of the boy.
The piece is slightly curved backwards and is, therefore, to be taken as a handle. It is not belonging to the group of Boyish Figures of the main excavation (nos. 156–161) but of the same Kuṣāṇa origin.
Size: H. 9.8 cm. Colour: brown.
No. So IV 29. FS. 6 IV 14.60/Cc 13.55, H. 14.79 m.

2) Animal figures

14. Fragment of a nāga-hood consisting of the remains of six slender snake bodies of which two have preserved the heads. This is undoubtedly a theriomorphic hood with originally seven snake heads.
Size: 7.1 × 6.3 × 2.0 cm. Colour: brick-red.
No. So IV 303. FS. 6 IV 13.78/Cc 18.23, H. 14.80 m.

15. Fragment of a nāga-hood consisting of the remains of five snake bodies. The piece is strongly chaff-tempered and shows no details anymore. As no. 14, it is a theriomorphic hood.
Size: 6.0 × 3.2 × 1.8 cm. Colour: light brown.
No. So IV 389. FS. 6 IV 11.2/Cc 10.4, H. 15.17 m.

16. Head of a cobra with incised nostrils, mouth, split tongue and horizontal strokes indicating skin-folds.
Size: 5.6 × 4.6 × 3.5 cm. Colour: light brown.
No. So IV 329. FS. 6 IV 10.78/Cc 14.53, H. 14.62 m.

17. Head of a cobra with round eyes and protruding eyeballs. The mouth, tongue and folds of the hood are marked by incised strokes.
Size: 3.6 × 4.1 × 2.9 cm. Colour: light brown.
No. So IV 80. FS. 6 IV 12.0/Cc 8.2, H. 14.65 m.

18. Head of a snake with pierced eyes and mouth.
Size: 5.9 × 2.4 × 1.8 cm. Colour: grey.
No. So IV 105. FS. 6 IV 2.5/Cc 6.0, H. 16.10 m.

19. Fragment of an elephant. Front-part with bulgy head, small rhomboid eyes, incised skin-folds and applied right ear. The root-sheaths of the tusks are empty. The trunk swings from left to right.
Size: H. 9.1 cm. L. 15.1 cm. B. 6.9 cm. Colour: brown.
No. So IV 436. FS. 6 IV 7.53/Cb 14.97, H. 15.31 m.

20. Head of a bull with curved horns, applied eyes and pricked pupils and nostrils. The dewlap is clearly worked out. On the cheek clings a fragment of an indistinct object.
Size: 5.8 × 4.6 × 4.1 cm. Colour: brick-red.
No. So IV 425. FS. 6 IV 0.5–7.4/Cc 9.5–10.5, H. 14.98–14.60 m.

21. Headless fragment of a bull with large pierced hump.
Size: L. 4.1 cm. H. 4.3 cm. Colour: dark grey.
No. So IV 210. FS. 6 IV 3.5/Cc 6.0, H. 15.20 m.

22. Weather-worn fragment of a ram.
Size: L. 6.0 cm. H. 4.8 cm. Colour: red.
No. So IV 179. FS. 6 IV 0.5/Cc 17.5, H. 15.20 m.

23. Head and neck of a duck. Perhaps spout of a vessel.
Size: H. 9.6 cm. Colour: red.
No. So IV 301. FS. 6 IV 11.6/Cc 14.15, H. 14.70 m.

E. MISCELLANEOUS TERRACOTTA OBJECTS

1. Mutilated object with three rectangular seal impressions containing two lines of script. The elevated central part shows a perforation. The inscription in the three impressed fields are identical. The text is written in Kuṣāṇa Brāhmī and reads:
L.1 .. .. .. *putrasa*
L.2 *abik[o]śikasa*
Size: max. 4.0 × 3.4 × 2.4 cm.
No. So IV 357. FS. 6 III 10.5–19.5/Cd 4.0–6.0, H. 14.90–14.60 m.

2. Seal impression on wheel-shaped object. A convex *triśūla* extends over the whole disc. It remains unclear whether the elevation in the centre is modelled.
Diam. 1.9 cm. D. 0.95 cm.
No. So IV 243. FS. 6 IV 12.5/Cc 13.7, H. 15.45 m.

3. Pottery stamp with sharply cut *nandyāvarta* symbol.
Diam. 2.7 cm.
No. So IV 393. FS. 6 IV 3.2/Cc 9.6, H. 14.68 m.

4. Pottery stamp with perforated conical handle showing a sharply cut *haṃsa*.
Size: 3.7 × 3.4 × 3.7 cm.
No. So IV 290. FS. 6 IV 2.7/Cc 10.5, H. 15.25 m.

5. Large stamp with knob-shaped handle. Three decorated concentric rings encircle a lotus rosette.
Diam. 11.65 cm. H. 3.0 cm. Colour: brick-red.
No. So IV 147. FS. 6 IV 6.85/Cc 8.45, H. 15.65 m.

6. Stopper with blossom-shaped top and tapering shaft.
Size: H. 5.85 cm. Colour: brown. No. So IV 324.
FS. 6 IV 0.5–9.5/Cc 7.5–9.5, H. 14.90–14.60 m.

7. Plain reel; short concave; both sides flat.
∅ 3.0 cm. Ht.1.7 cm. Colour: brown. No. So IV 126.
FS. 6 IV 0.5–2.9/Cb 15.5–17.5, H. 15.45–15.15 m.

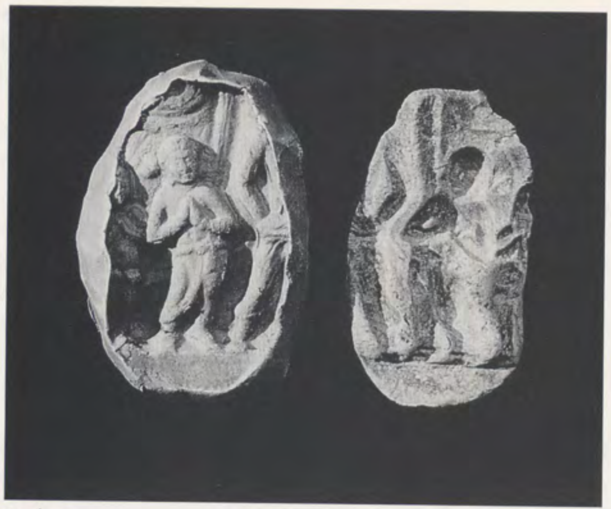
8. Double-convex wheel with on both sides protruding hub.
Diam. 3.9 cm. Colour: brick-red.
So IV 201. FS. 6 IV 6.5/Cc 18.2, H. 15.20 m.

9. Double-convex wheel with protruding hubs. Incised oblique strokes on obverse.
Diam. 4.0 cm. D. 1.4 cm. Colour: brick-red.
No. So IV 322. FS. 6 III 11.2/Cd 2.5, H. 15.25 m.

10. Spherical ball with incised segmenting lines (melon-shaped).
Diam. 1.8 cm. Colour: brown.
No. So IV 426. FS. 6 IV 0.5/Cc 9.5, H. 15.30 m.

11. Fragment of presumably rectangular skin-rubber with punctured surface on one side.
Size: 6.1 × 4.2 × 1.5 cm. Colour: brown.
No. So IV 202. FS. 6 IV 1.54/Cd 0.70, H 14.98 m.

12. Fragment of round skin-rubber with criss-cross incised surface on one side.
Size: 7.3 × 4.7 × 1.8 cm.
No. So IV 184. FS. 6 IV 5.0/Cc 16.0, H. 15.20 m.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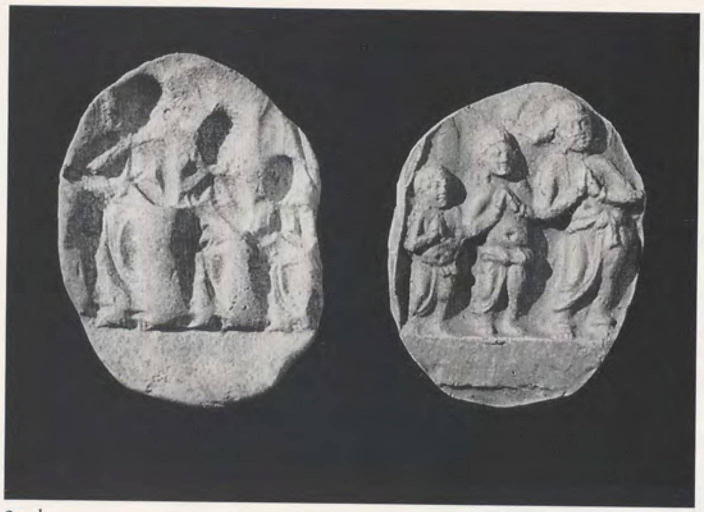
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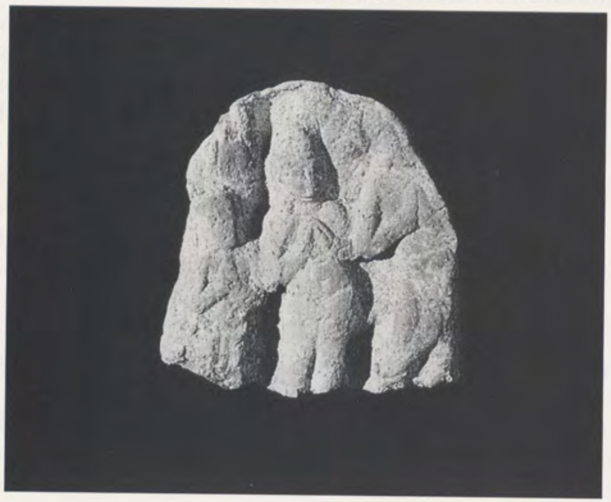
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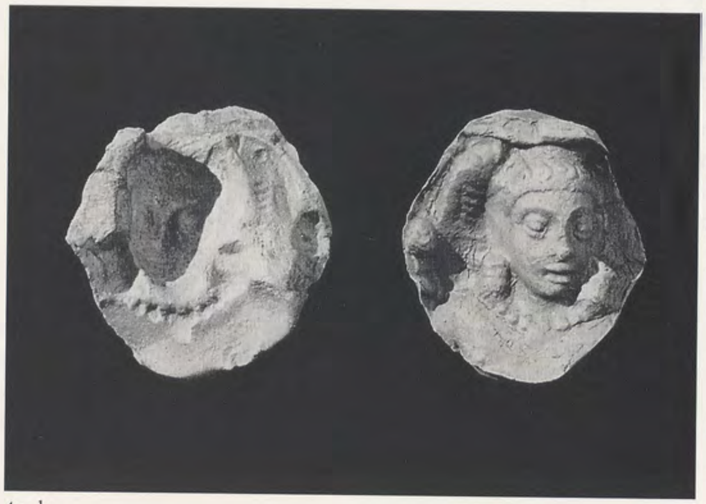
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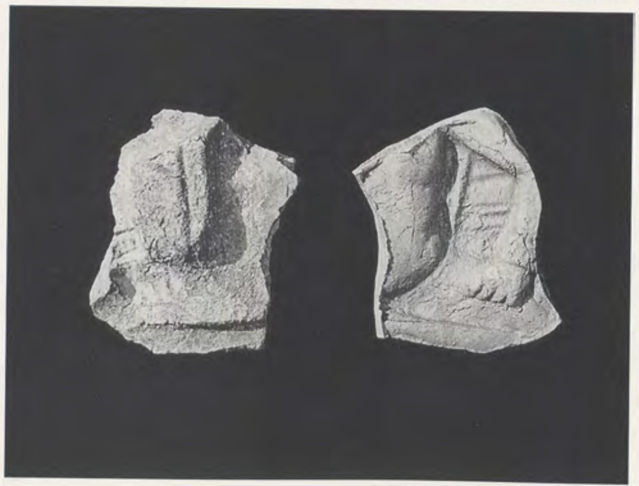
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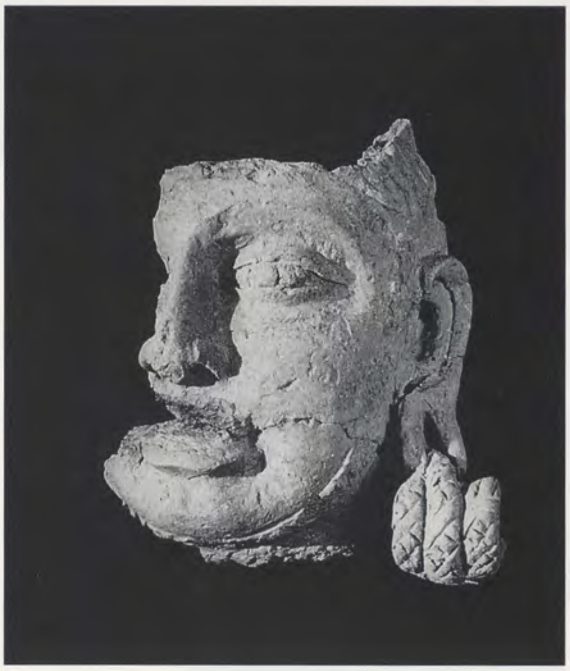
Terracotta Objects, Moulds and Human Figurines



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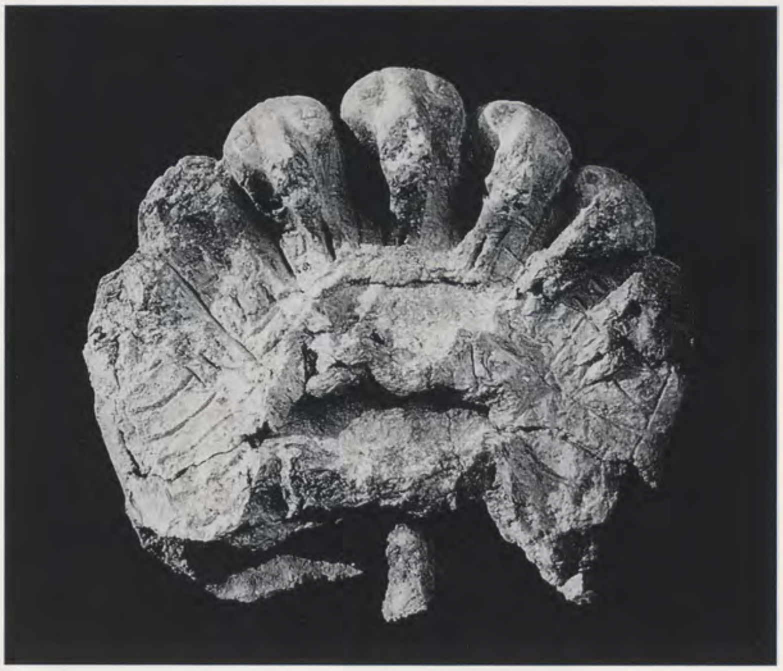

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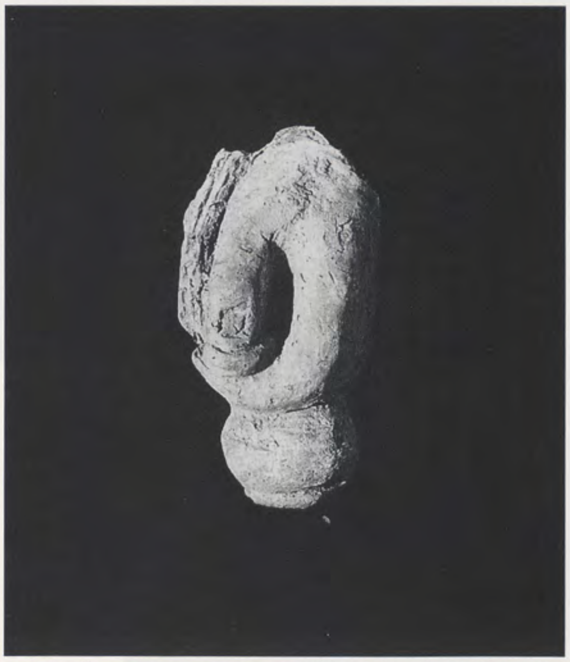

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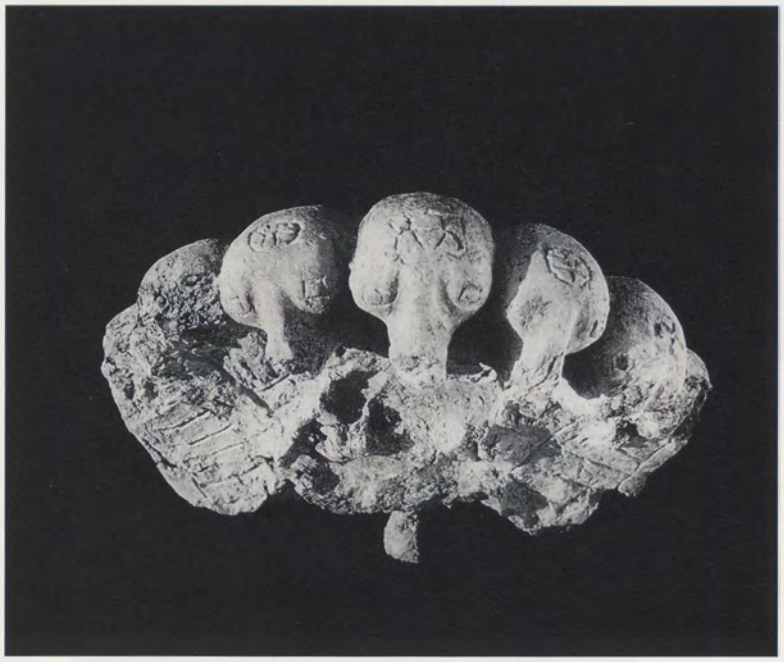

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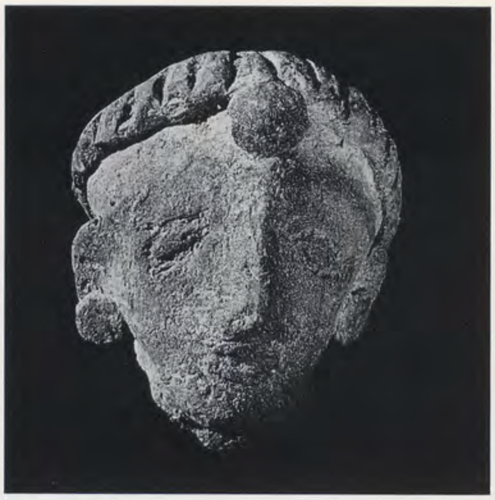
Terracotta Objects, Human Figurines



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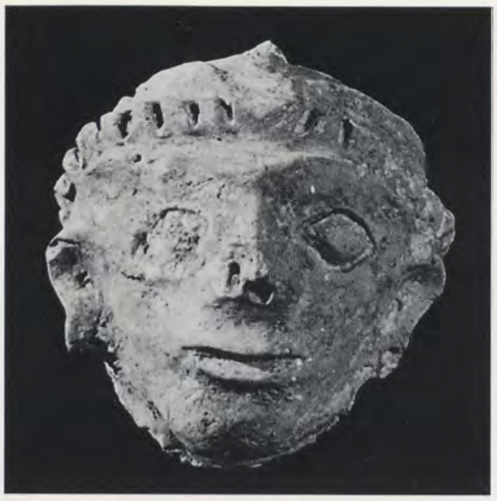

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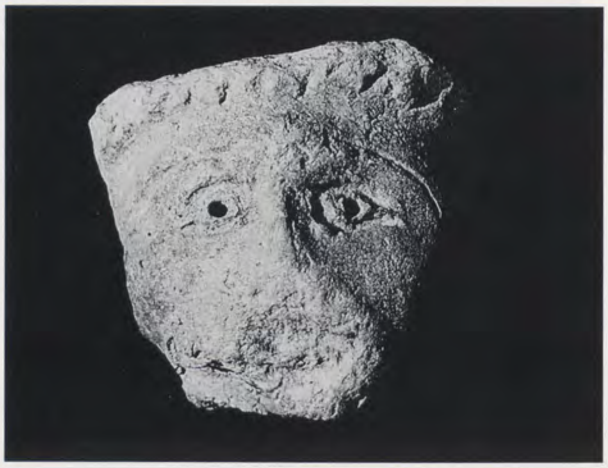

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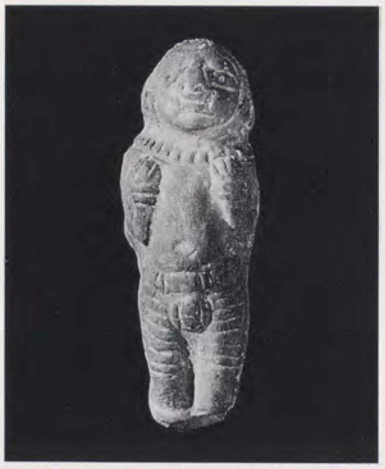

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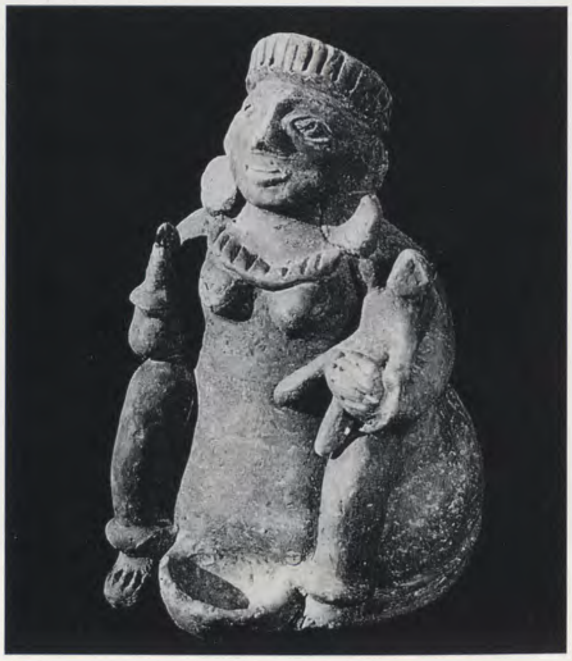

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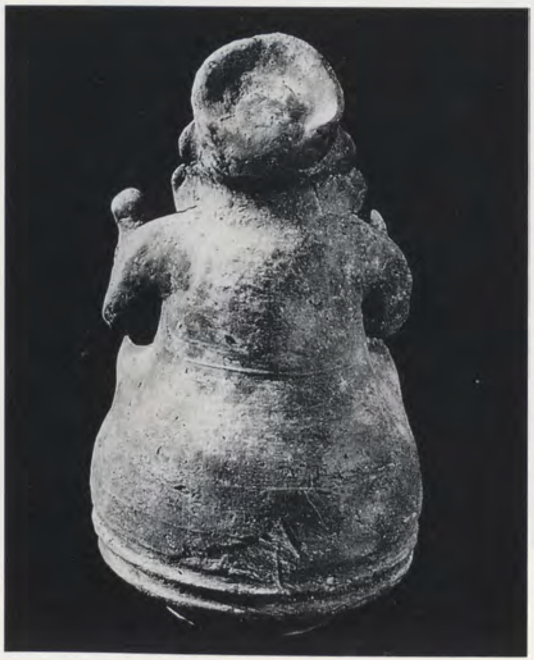

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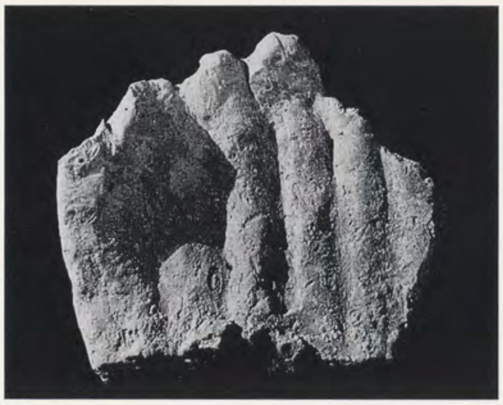
Terracotta Objects, Human Figurines



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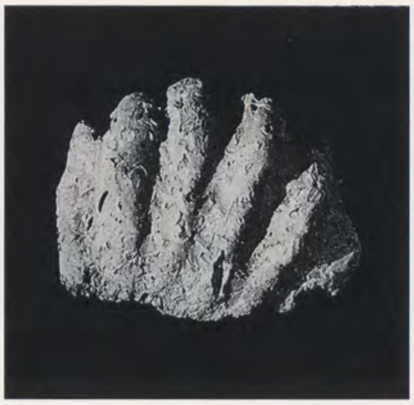

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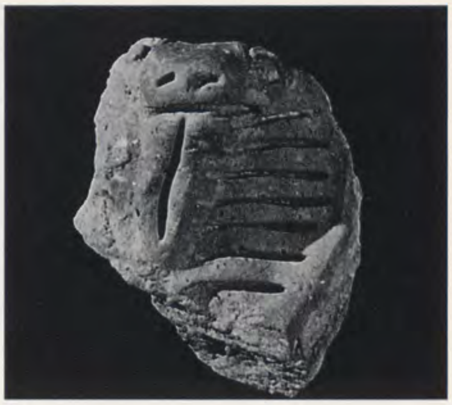

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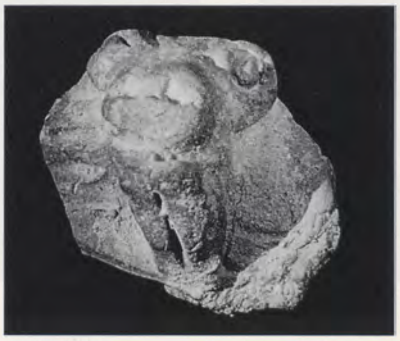

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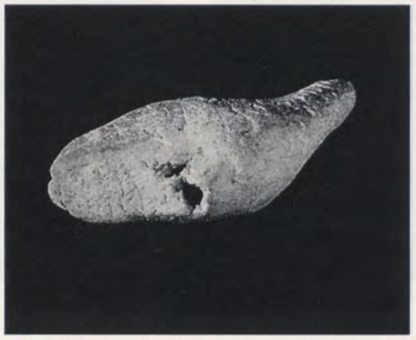

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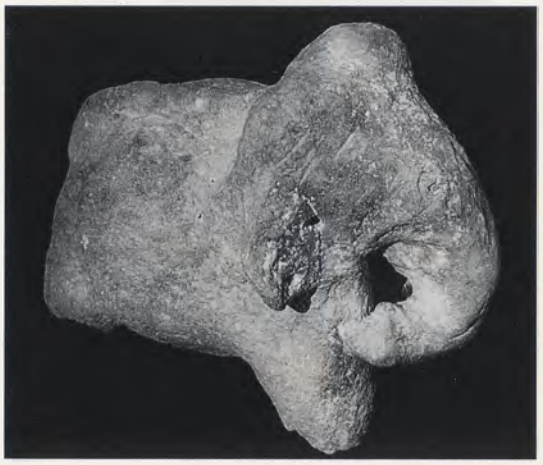

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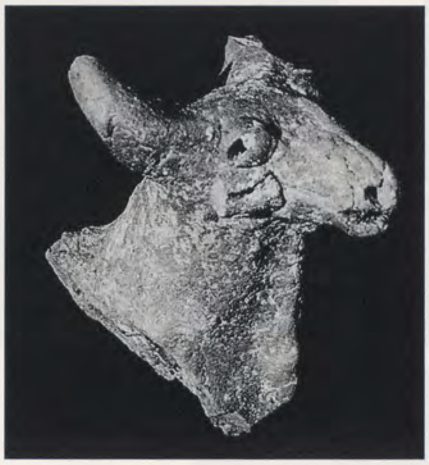

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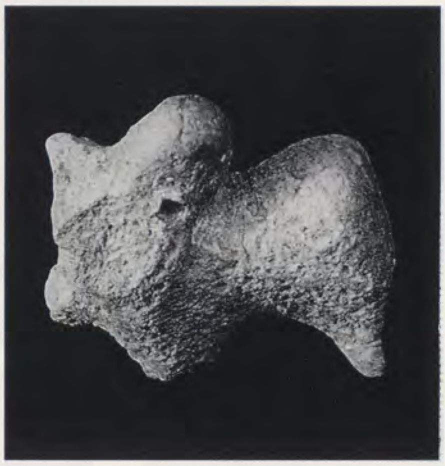

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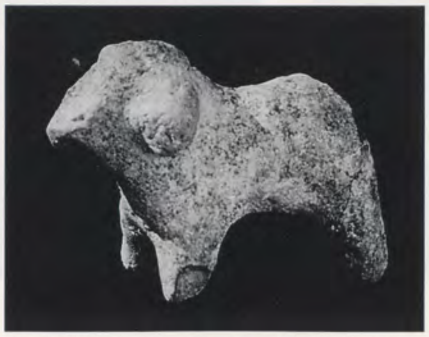

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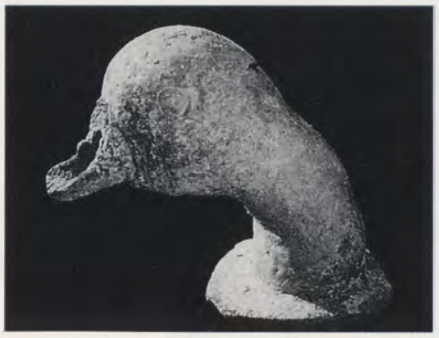

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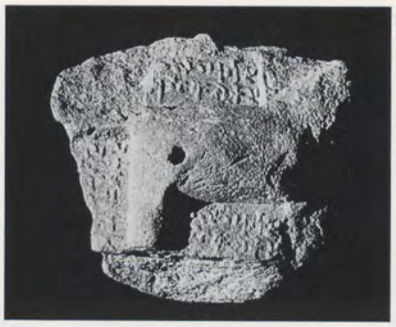
Terracotta Objects, Animal Figurines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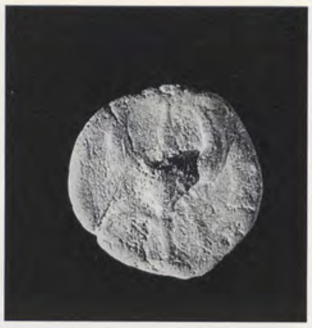
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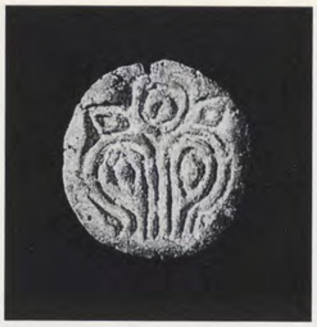
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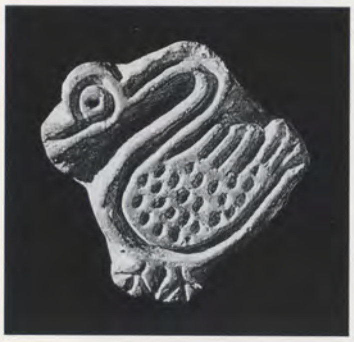
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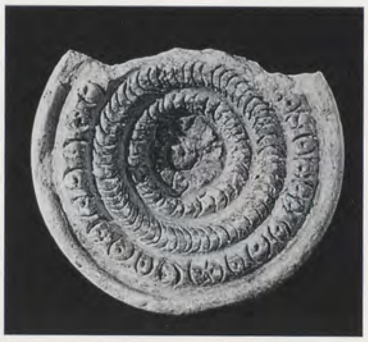
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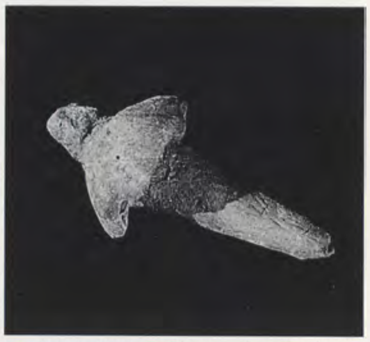
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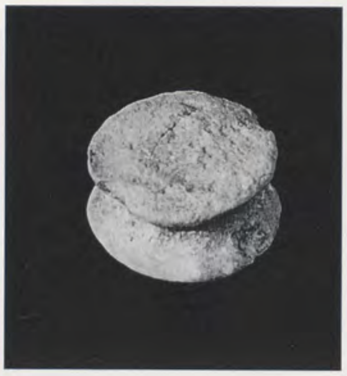
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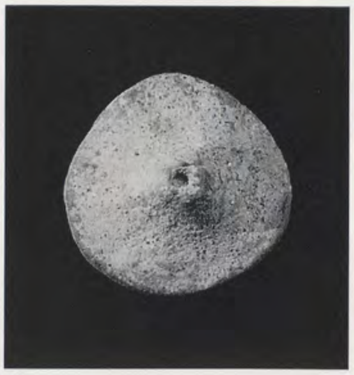
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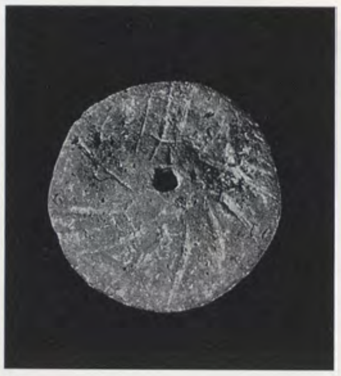
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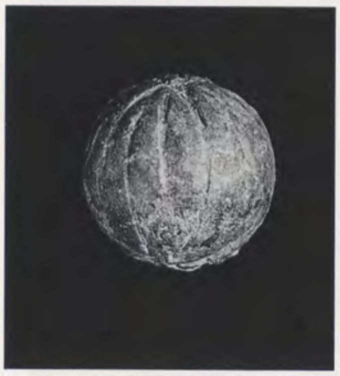
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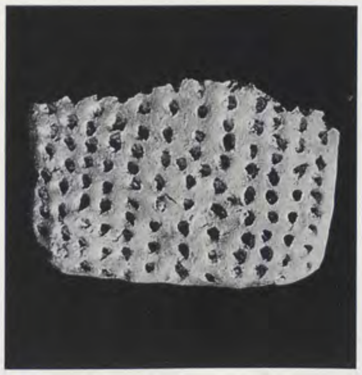
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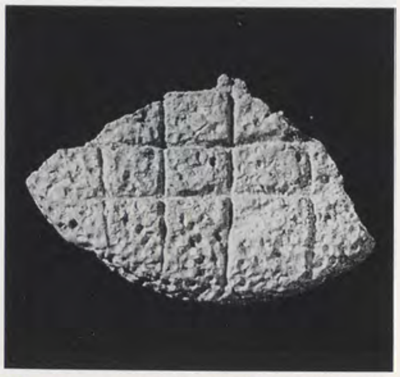

12

Miscellaneous Terracotta Objects

F. MISCELLANEOUS OBJECTS OF METAL, BONE AND STONE

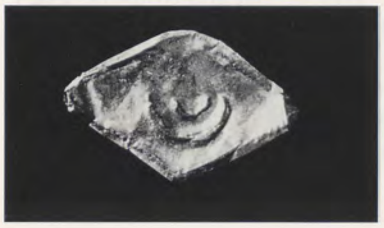
1. Thin small rhomboid gold foil embossed with two concentric semicircles in the centre and a framing line of dots along the edge.
Size: 1.75 × 2.70 cm.
No. So I 278. FS. 6 IV 14.25/Ca 1.35, H. 14.80 m.

2. Crushed bead of gold foil. The originally hollow lenticular bead shows on both ends a stiffened rim for the take-up of the thread.
Size: L. ca 2.2 cm. H. ca 1.0 cm.
No. So I 280. FS. 6 III 6.0/Cb 19.9, H. 15.02 m.

3. Stylus of bone with a carved hand on one end. The tips of the fingers are turned towards the palm, but the incised horizontal strokes are indicating finger nails. The wrist is decorated with three bangles.
Sizes: L. 10.4 cm. B. (hand) 1.3 cm.
No. So I 279. FS. 6 IV 17.05/Cc 1.2, H. 14.75 m.

4 Steatite bowl, hemispherical, upper wall grooved, direct sharp-edged rim bordered by two thin grooves on the outside.
Diam. 3.6 cm. Colour: white-pink.
No. So IV 113. FS. 6 IV 7.85/Cc 3.7, H. 15.85 m.

5. Fragment of a sandstone bowl decorated with incised pointed lotus petals and a borderline of triangular notches on the outside.
Size: 9.1 × 5.2 × 1.9 cm. Colour: whitish.
No. So IV 205. FS. 6 III 10.2/Cd 0.78, H. 15.22 m.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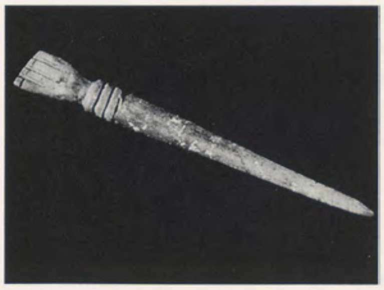
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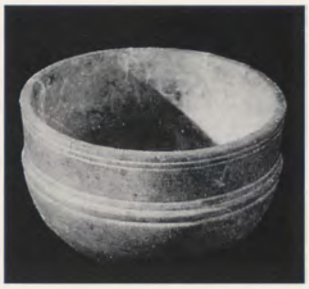
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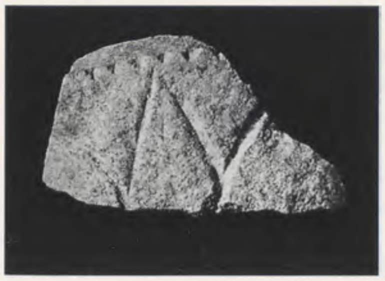

5

G. COINS

Wima Kadphises

Æ

1. *Obv*. Corroded king standing l. sacrificing at altar.
Rev. Corroded Śiva facing standing before bull r.
Size 2.69–2.74 × 0.42 cm. Wt 17.029 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 235. FS. 6 IV 12.38/Cc 9.50, H. 15.80 m.
Publ. R. Göbl 1984: no. 762/20.

2. *Obv*. King standing l. sacrificing at altar.
Rev. Corroded Śiva facing standing before bull r.
Size 2.75–3.08 × 0.41 cm. Wt 16.920 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 298. FS. 6 III 17.3/Cb 17.5, H. 16.50 m.
Type R. Göbl 1984: no. 762.

Kaniṣka

Æ

3. *Obv*. King standing facing l., clad in coat and trousers. He holds in r. hand elephant-goad (*aṅkuśa*) over altar; in his l. hand long-shafted spear.
Rev. Śiva standing l., nimbate, has four arms and hands with corroded attributes.
Size 2.47–2.66 × 0.47–0.58 cm. Wt 17.381 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 299. FS. 6 III 17.3/Cb 17.5, H. 16.50 m.
Type R. Göbl 1984: no. 781.
The coins nos. 2 and 3 have been found sticking together in one of the brick-foundations of the upper row of pillars along the wall of the Apsidal Temple no. 2.

4. *Obv*. King standing facing l., clad in coat and trousers. The r. hand is extended over altar; in his l. hand long-shafted spear.
Rev. Male deity (MAO) to l., nimbate, r. arm stretched l.
Size 2.60–2.75 × 0.46 cm. Wt 16.365 gm. Shape circular.
No. So III H 164. FS. 6 IV 15.2/Cc 0.6, H. 14.60 m.
Publ. R. Göbl 1984: no. 774/14.

Huviṣka

Æ

5. *Obv*. Corroded
Rev. Male deity (MAO), large crescent behind shoulders, r. arm advanced, l. hand grasps sword.
Size 2.14–2.20 × 0.30 cm. Wt 6.266 gm. Shape: circular.
No. So III H 234. FS. 6 IV 3.86/Cc 13.62, H. 15.00 m.
Publ. R. Göbl 1984: no. 975/7.

Æ

6. *Obv*.: Male figure standing to front wearing short tunic, trousers and boots. Long hair covers the head and hangs down to his shoulders. His half-raised left hand holds a long staff with truncated top and waving banner. The right arm is akimbo placed on the hip. On the right (and bottom?) side appears an incuse line. On the left, i.e, from VIII upto XI an inscription in Brāhmī characters occurs, reading *Huviṣkasya*.
Rev.: A tree with full crown of twigs and leaves on the left side. To the right two horizontal lines of Brāhmī script with three letters each:
L.1 *[pu]tra ka*
L.2 *ṇ(i)kas[y]a*
Size 2.16–2.19 × 0.64 cm. Wt 8.696 gm. Shape: circular
No. So III H 188. FS. 6 III 17.8/Cc 1.1, H. 14.23 m.

This coin is a unique specimen of historical importance and has been published and discussed already by P. L. Gupta (1973), B. N. Mukherjee (1973), *and listed by* R. Göbl (1984) *under* no. 984 *as a local issue. In any case, it proves difficult to bring the two parts of inscription in a line that makes sense.* P. L. Gupta (1973, p. 125) *discusses this very point when he argues: "The only problem is, who was the issuer of this coin? The legend may have dual interpretation. If the two parts of the legend on the two sides are taken in continuation, beginning from the obverse and ending on the reverse, it would mean that* Kaṇika *was the issuer of the coin and he was the son of* Huviṣka. *But if the two parts of the legend be taken as separate, it may then be interpreted as* ”of Huviṣka“ *and* ”son of Kaṇika“. *In that case, the name on the obverse, i.e.* Huviṣka *would be that of the issuer and then according to the reverse legend, he would be the son of* Kaṇika. *But this latter interpretation seems unlikely as* putra Kaṇikasya *in the sense of* ”son of Kaṇika“ *is an unusual construction; proper construction in this sense would be* Kaṇikasya putra. *So, here the* putra *should go with* Huviṣkasya. *As such, I believe that the issuer of this coin was* ”Kaṇika, the son of Huviṣka.“

B. N. Mukherjee (1973, p. 6) *holds the same opinion, but while* P. L. Gupta *comes to the conclusion that the* Kaṇika *of the coin is Kaniṣka I, the son of an (unknown) Huviṣka "who might or might not have been ruler at any time"*, B.N.Mukherjee *argues that "the only Kuṣāṇa monarch with whom the ruler concerned can be identified is Kaniṣka III, the successor of Vāsudeva I".*

The author is not convinced of any of these conclusions. The arguments do not answer the crucial question about the purpose *of this very special issue. It is certainly not a piece of the imperial Kuṣāṇa currency but rather a sort of medal coined on the occasion of an important event. The tree on the reverse might, for instance, stand for* Birth. *In any case, the main person is not necessarily the issuer of the medal but the one to whom it is dedicated. He would have to appear on the obverse which in the copper piece in question is undoubtedly the side with the male figure accompanied by the inscribed name* Huviṣka. *This name is, as one would expect, written in the genitive. Should one now take the two parts of the legend as separate, and should the first two akṣaras on the reverse really to be read as* pu *(and not as* sa), *then the wording* putra Kaṇikasya *is in fact disturbing. In this case, one expects of course* Kaṇikaputrasya *or* Kaṇikasya putra. *But was the designer of our coin or medal aware of such a rule? As far as the author knows, there exists no other coin with a Brāhmī inscription mentioning the fathers name and written in two parts on the obverse and reverse. The* putra Kaṇikasya *in the sense of "son of Kaṇika" is in fact an unusual construction, but is it really impossible? To think with* P. L. Gupta *of an unknown* Huviṣka *who is the father of* Kaniṣka I, *or with* B. N. Mukherjee *(for whom* Vāsiṣka *is the father of* Kaniṣka II*) of a likewise unknown* Huviṣka *as the father of* Kaniṣka III *is equally unlikely. One should not, in spite of the unusual wording of the inscription, exclude the possibility that this is a medal for* Huviṣka, *the* son of Kaniṣka (I). *The findspot in the surroundings of the Apsidal Temple 2, and the palaeography of the script offer no objection against such an interpretation.*

Vīrasena

Æ

7. *Obv*.: On top Brāhmī letters *..ras(e[na]..* Below: tree in railing between *nandyāvarta* symbol r. and l.
Rev.: Crude standing figure of Lakṣmī holding stalk of flower in her r. hand.
Size 1.31 × 1.09 × 0.23 cm. Wt 1.746 gm. Rectangular.
No. So III H 162. FS. 6 III 6.7/Cb 9.5, H. 14.50 m.

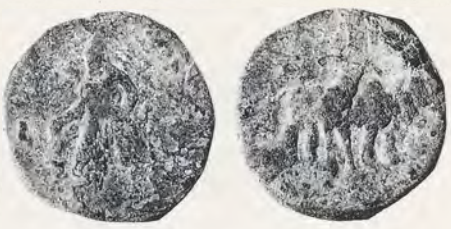
8. *Obv*.: On top *[vi]ras[e]na[sa]*. Below: tree in railing between *nandyāvarta* symbol r. and l.
Rev.: Corroded.
Size 1.21 × 1.17 × 0.21 cm. Wt 1.373 gm. Rectangular.
No. So III H 160. FS. Surface, modern temple area.

9. *Obv*.: On top *..ras[ena]|||*. Below: tree in railing between *nandyāvarta* symbol r. and l. partly.
Rev.: Corroded.
Size 1.42 × 1.17 × 0.22 cm. Wt 2.214 gm. Rectangular.
No. So III H 161. FS.6 III 8.0–9.5/Cb 8.0–9.5, H. 14.75 m.

AR *Vināyakapāla I*

10. *Obv*.: Corroded figure of anthropoid boar.
Rev.: Legend *|||[ya]ka|||*
Size 1.77 × 1.45 × 0.29 cm. Wt 3.929 gm. Circular.
No. So III H 233. FS. Surface find.

AE Native States Bharatpur
11. Sūraj Mall (?). Maha Indrapur. Date: -ry.4. Legend = IMC IV, p. 220.
Size 1.94–2.15 × 0.70 cm. Wt 18.063 gm. Circular.
No. So III H 187. FS. 6 III/Cb, H. 14.75 m.
Note: One more specimen of same type registered under So III H 236.



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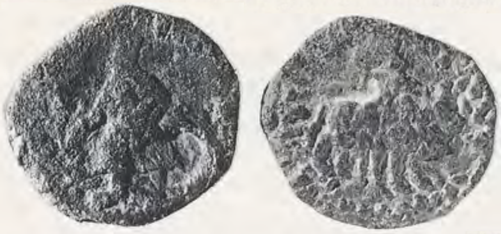

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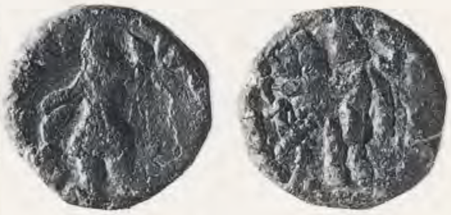

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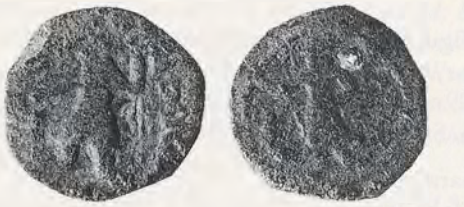

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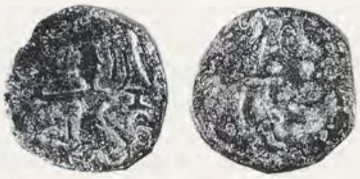

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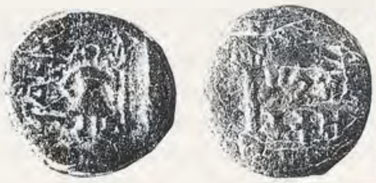

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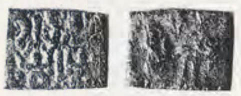

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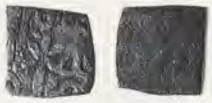

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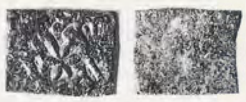

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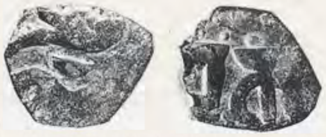

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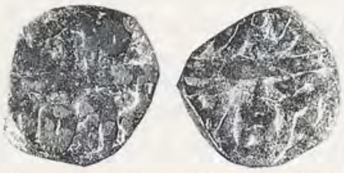

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Part II. Coins. 1/1

H. DECORATED POTTERY

The decorated pottery sherds found in the area of Apsidal temple 2 are all, with a few exceptions, of the stamped Kuṣāṇa variety. There is, as the selected samples show, no remarkable difference to the stamped pattern of the material found in the main excavation area. The exceptions are a few paddle-marked and moulded specimens.

1. Sherd of red ware jar paddled with sets of parallel grooves. 7.1 × 4.9 cm. So IV 136. FS. 6 IV/Cc, H. 15.50 m.

2. Sherd of red ware jar with incised and impressed grooves. 21.2 × 11.0 cm. So IV 221. FS. 6 IV/Cc, H. 14.90 m.

3. Shoulder fragment of red ware jar decorated with stamped hanging leaves between horizontal grooved lines. 13.25 × 10.2 cm. So IV 213. FS. 6 IV/Cc, H. 14.85 m.

4. Sherd of red ware jar stamped with a variation of leaves, rosettes and a V-shaped shoulder band. 7.7 × 5.2 cm. So IV 214. FS. 6 III/Cc, H. 15.30 m.

5. Shoulder fragment of a vessel in red ware decorated with a band of small *nandyāvarta* symbols above and one large such symbol below. 6.0 × 7.4 xm. So IV 119. FS. 6 IV/Cb, H. 15.75 m.

6. Shoulder fragment of a vessel in red ware decorated with stamped leave variations between horizontal grooved lines. 14.7 × 5.6 cm. So IV 399. FS. 6 IV/Cc, H. 14.90 m.

7. Sherd of a jar in red ware showing horizontal grooves and stamped V-shaped patterns as well as semicircular garlands. 7.7 × 5.1 cm. So IV 338. FS. 6 IV/Cd, H. 14.90 m.

8. Sherd of a red ware jar decorated with stamped rosettes, lozenges and arches. 12.0 × 7.1 cm. So IV 135. FS. 6 IV/Cc, H. 15.80 m.

9. Shoulder fragment of a red ware jar decorated with a horizontal chain of broad lotus petals and a large stamped *śrīvatsa*. 9.9 × 8.1 cm. So IV 161. FS. 6 IV/Cc, H. 15.50 m.

10. Shoulder fragment of a red ware jar showing lines of small and large stamped rosettes and a band of oblique notched grooves. 10.5 × 8.6 cm. So IV 337. FS. 6 IV/Cc, H. 14.85 m.

11. Sherd of a red ware jar decorated with bands of stamped stars, and notches arranged in semicircles. 5.8 × 3.1 cm. SoIV 220. 6 III/Cc.

12. Fragment of a moulded red ware vessel decorated with floral and geometrical patterns. 4.5 × 4.0 cm. So IV 144. FS.6 IV/Cc,15.50 m.

I. POTTERY OBJECTS

In the area of Apsidal Temple no. 2 a few ceramic objects have been found among the pottery the function of which is not entirely clear. They probably have been used as or were part of pinnacles. Special attention must be given to object no. 1 because of its green glaze of undoubtedly Kuṣāṇa origin. Here as well as in a number of other pottery fragments the glaze is a blue-green copper one, originally shining and semitransparent, now corroded and opaque. This glaze is based on lead, with copper and iron combinations as colouring agents.

The iron bell depicted along with no. 2 has been found in the mud filling within this pipe. The remains of the clapper are clinging to the corroded inner side.

Along with these objects have been recovered seven pieces of roof-tiles, all quite fragmentary, but of the same type and size as those found in Level 27 of the main excavation area. In absence of a complete set of photographs the three pieces depicted here may stand for all (nos. 5–6).

1. Tubular object (pinnacle?) having a gallery around its middle part, at one end a double cordon. Light brick-red, exterior green-glazed, medium fine fabric.
Ht. 25.3 cm, Diam. 16.9 cm. No. So IV 363.
Note: One more fragment of a glazed object registered under So IV 349.

2. Fragment of a tubular object (pinnacle?) with two serrated ridges. Exterior brick-red, interior grey, medium coarse fabric. It was found with an iron bell inside.
Ht. 28.0 cm, Diam. 12.0 cm. No. So IV 118, 118a.
Note: One more fragment registered under So IV 375.

3. Fragmentary slightly conical pinnacle (?) with grooved and notched ridges. Brick-red, medium coarse fabric.
Ht. 24.4 cm, Diam. 15.3 cm. No. So IV 439.

4. Conical object with the remains of eight handle-like appendices. Presumably the top of a pinnacle. Decorated with grooves and a notched cordon. The cone is solid. Brick-red, medium coarse fabric.
Ht. 13.4 cm, Diam. 12.5 cm. No. So IV 445.

5. Two fragments of burnt roof-tiles, one showing carefully made grooves on the upper side, the other being preserved in its lower side only.
Size: 19.2 × 17.6 × 3.1 cm and 11.7 × 11.9 × 3.5 cm.
Nos.So III G 153 + 156. FS. 6 III 11.5/Cb 14.8, H. 15.09 m.
Note: Five more tile fragments registered under So III G 152; 154; 155; 157; 158.

6. Fragment of burnt brick with wide groove.
Size: 26.8 × 24.0 × 6.0 cm.
No. So III G 160. FS. as no. 5

J. POTTERY

1. Fragment of globular jar, short concave neck, grooved collar-rim, thin cordon on shoulder. Ochre, fine fabric. No. So II 2552.

2. Fragment of jar, recurved neck, corrugated collar-rim, two grooves on neck, thin cordon at base of neck, stamped *nandyāvarta* on shoulder. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2550.

3. Jar, globular, short wide concave neck, beaked and in-beaded rim, stamped *nandyāvartas* in groups of three on upper trunk. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2572.

4. Fragment of jug, globular, concave funnel neck, rim concave, beaked, two grooves on shoulder, eared loop-handle. Brick-red, medium fine fabric, core unoxidized. No. So II 2559.

5. Jarlet, sharply carinated, almost biconical, plain short funnel-rim, flat base. Brick-red, fine fabric, corroded. No. So II 2502

6. Jarlet, double-carinated, beaked rim, flat base. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2538.

7. Cup, heart-shaped profile, nearly cylindrical neck with plain rim, narrow flat base. Ochre, fine fabric. No. So II 2372.

8. Small jar, globular, wide steep funnel-neck, angular, slightly inbevelled rim, flat base. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2321.

9. Jar, globular, funnel-neck with plain rim, three grooves on upper trunk, convex base. Reddish ochre, smooth surface, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2746.

10. Small jar, bulging and carinated wall, funnel-neck with bevelled rim, flat base. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2366.

11. Beaker, bulging wall, recurved neck, beaded rim, flat base. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2563.

12. Big spherical jar, recurved neck, band-rim, relatively thin wall. Light brick-red, medium fine fabric, core unoxidized. No. So II 2380.

13. Fragment of neck of storage jar, short cylindrical, angular undercut beaked rim, groove at base of neck. Light brick-red, coarse fabric, core unoxidized, hand-modelled. No. So II 2674.

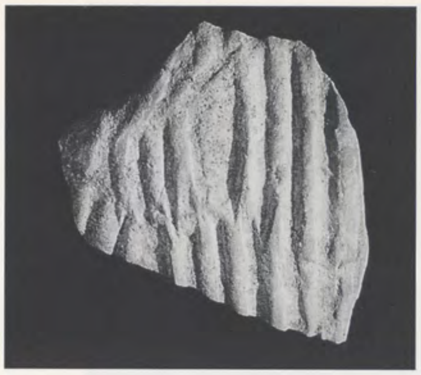
14. Small funnel-bowl, up-curved and stepped tapering rim, protruding foot. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2544.

15. Small funnel-bowl, straight carinated rim. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2471.

16. Fragment of bowl-lid with central knob, horizontal flange with flat top and groove at inner edge, base of knob ringed, base of lid rounded by scraping. Brick-red, fine fabric. No. So II 2581.

17. Pedestal (?), conical, with central part of bowl (?), lower end having four grooves, upper end two grooves. Brick-red, medium fine fabric. No. So II 2371.

18. Fragment of pedestal (?), conical, at lower end five grooves. Light brick-red, green-glazed, fine fabric. No. So 2649.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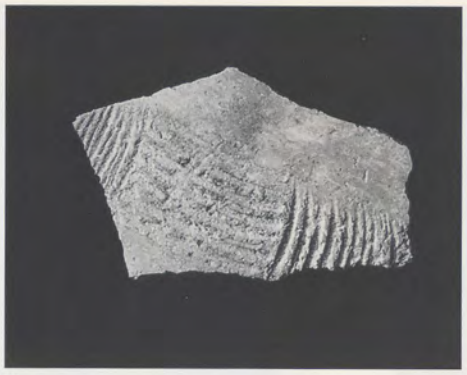
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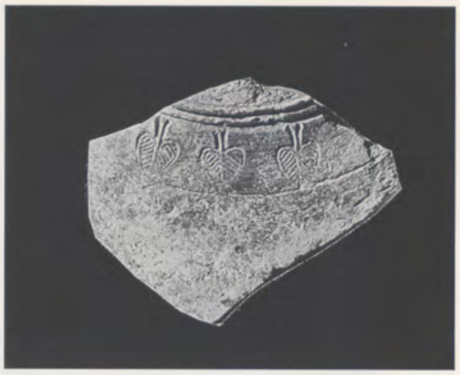
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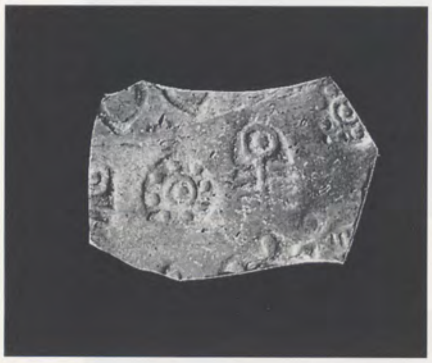
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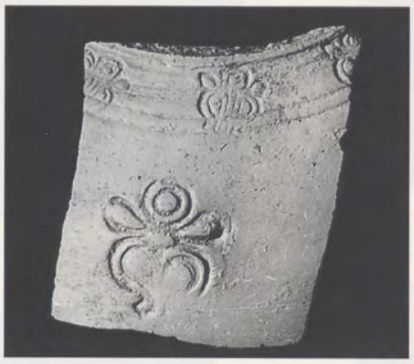
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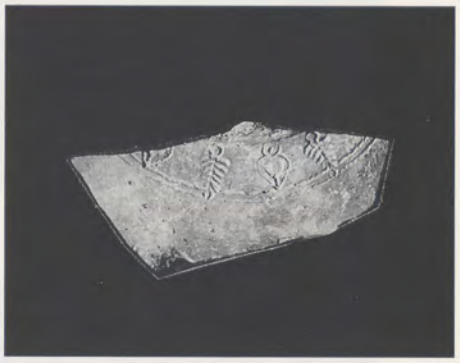
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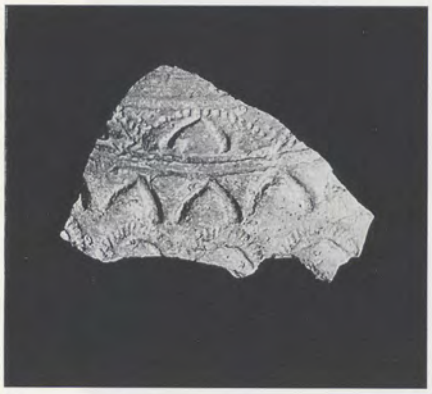
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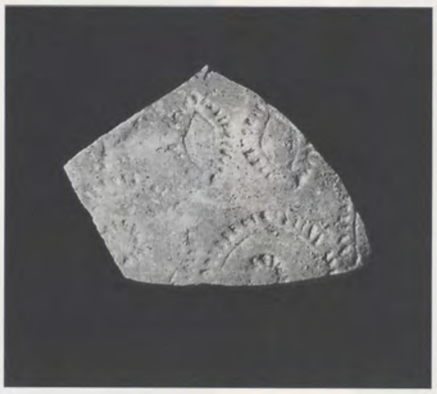
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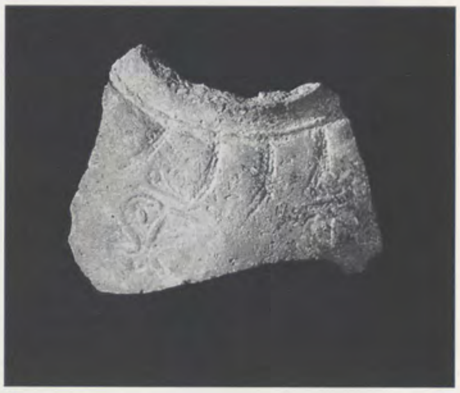
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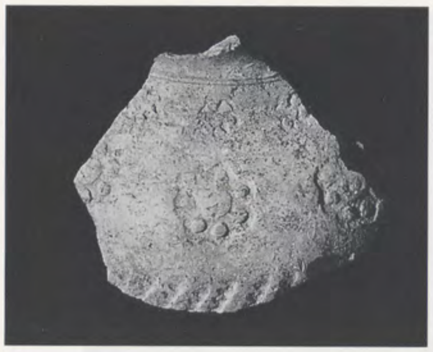
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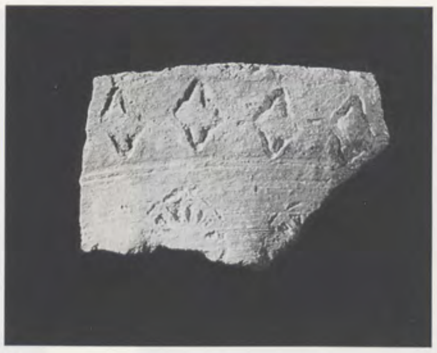
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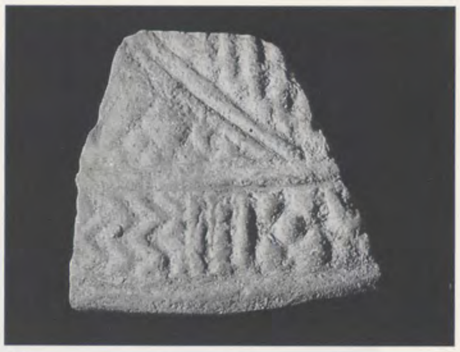
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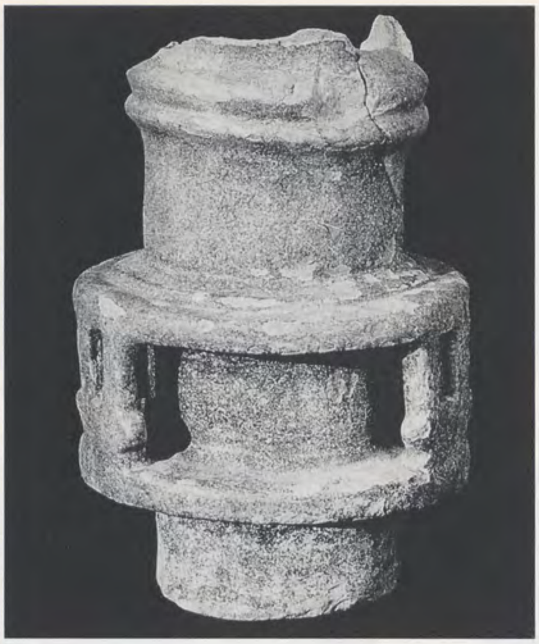

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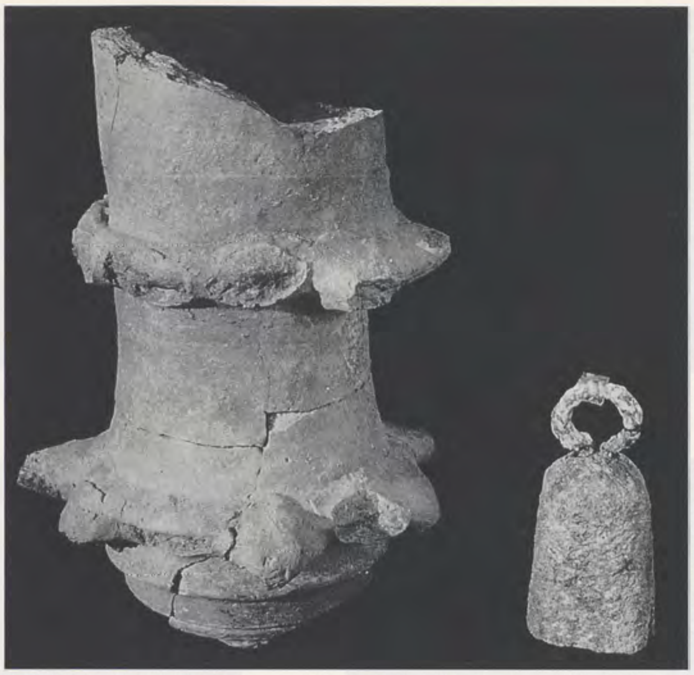

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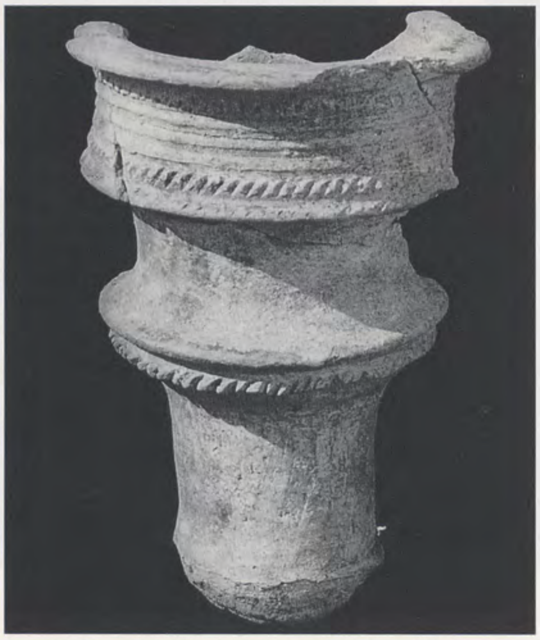

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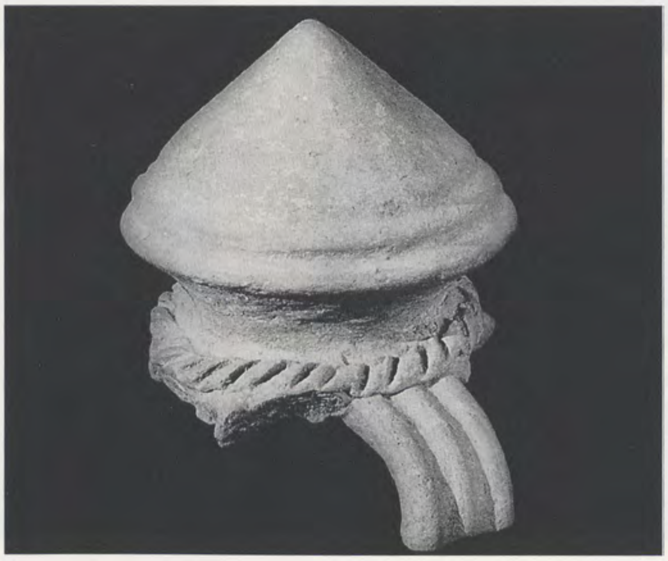

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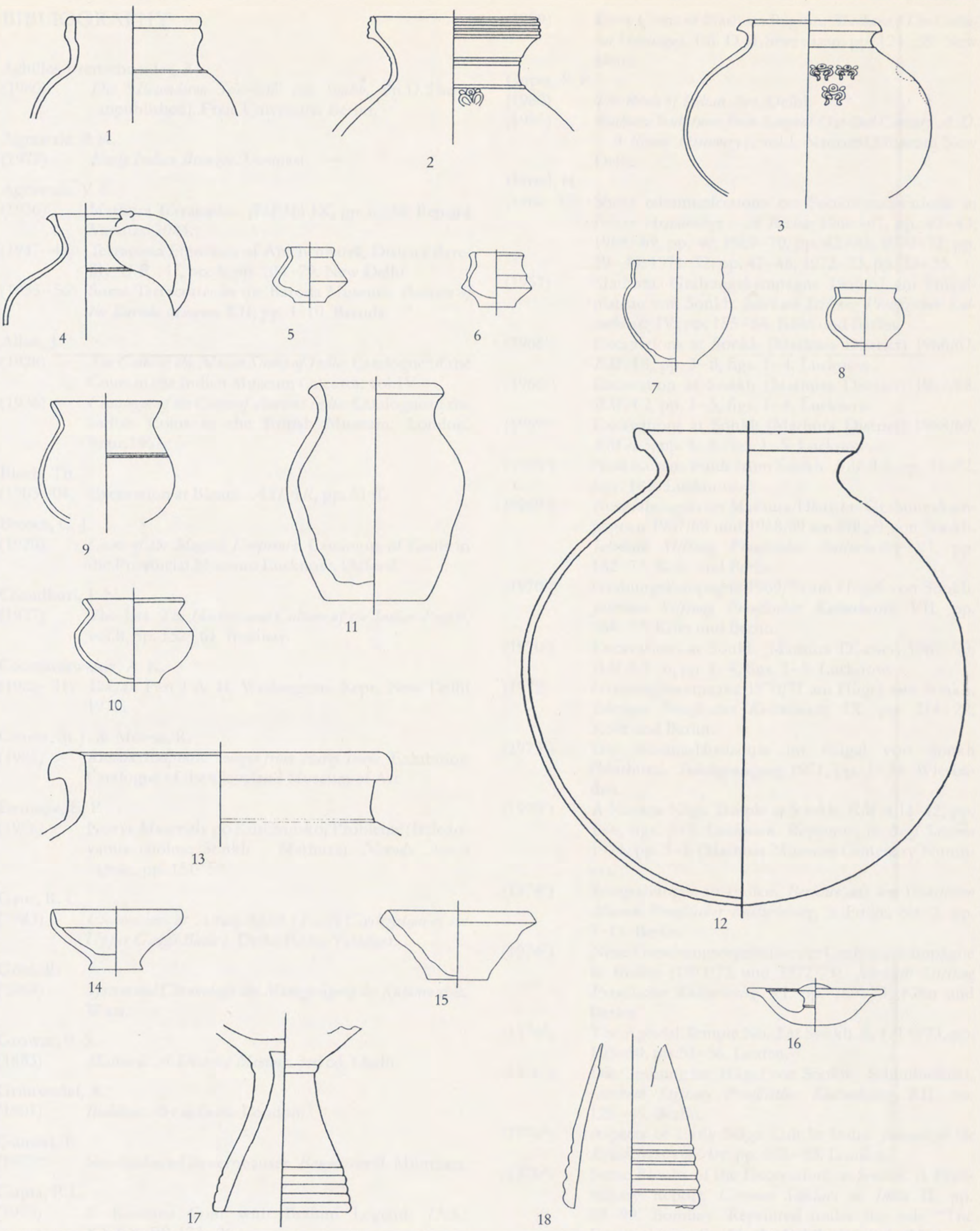
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